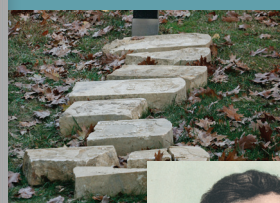
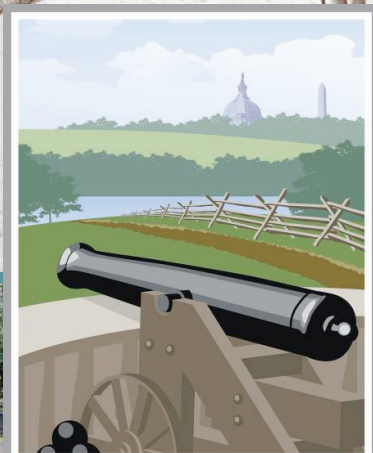
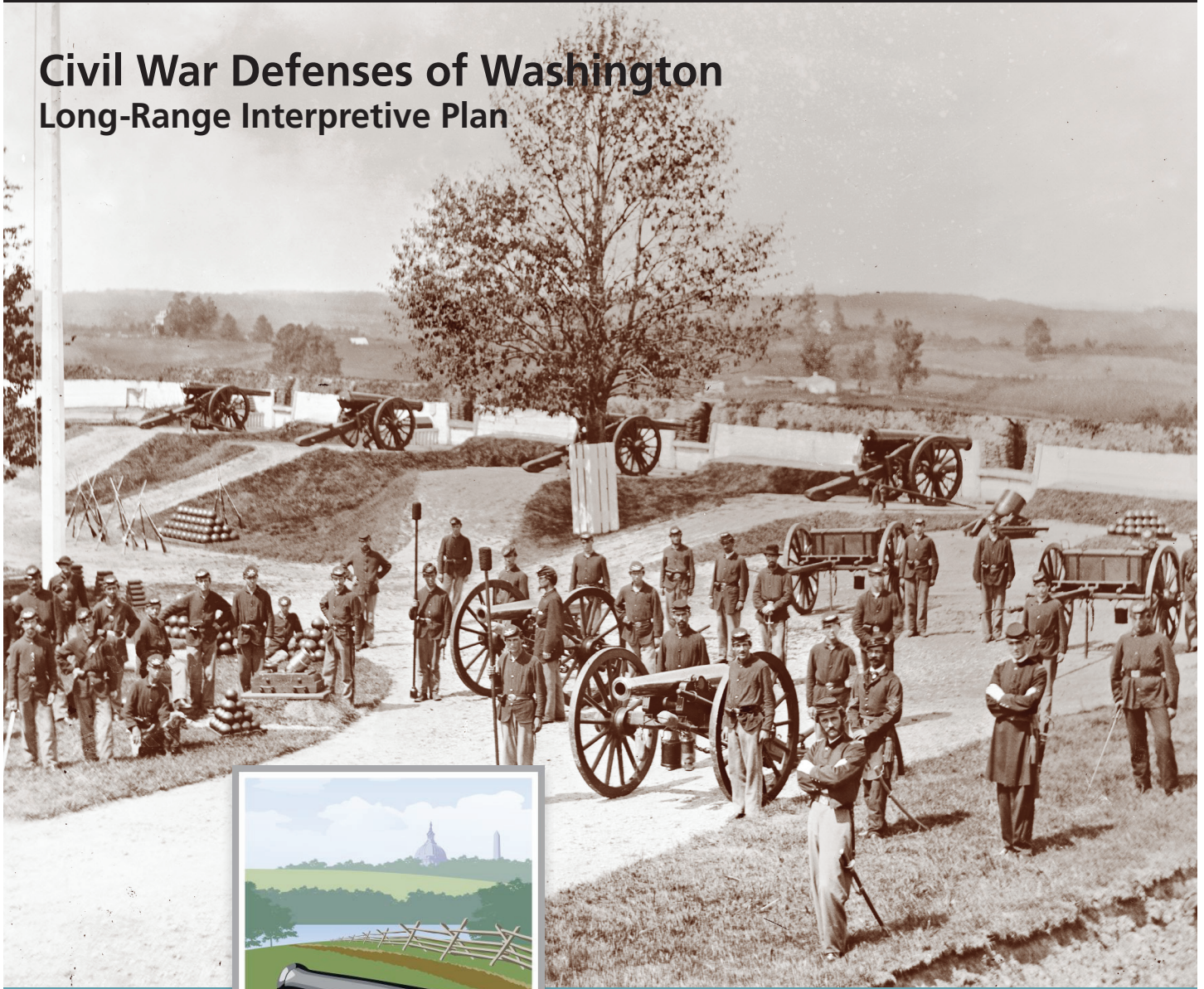


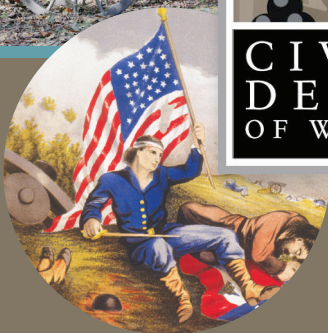


Civil War Defenses of Washington

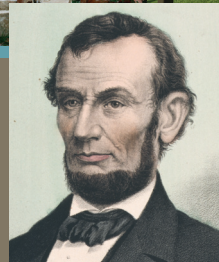
Long-Range Interpretive Plan



FEBRUARY 2012



CIVIL WAR
DEFENSES
OF WASHINGTON
© NPS





COVER: Company F, 3d Regiment Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Fort Stevens, August 1865

LEFT: Tent life of the 31st Penn. Inf. at Queen's farm, vicinity of Fort Slocum, 1861

RIGHT: Officers of Companies A and B, 3d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, and crew of 100-pdr. Parrott gun on iron barbette carriage at Fort Totten, c. 1865

FACING PAGE: Officers of 3d Regiment Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Fort Totten, August 1865

All Historical images courtesy Library of Congress





Civil War Defenses of Washington

Long-Range Interpretive Plan

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Interpretive Planning Services
Harpers Ferry Center
P.O. Box 50
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

By:

Interpretive Solutions, Inc.
732 Westbourne Road
West Chester, PA 19382

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Union Army's Mount Pleasant Hospitals, Washington, D.C., c. 1862

Contents

Executive Summary 7

Introduction 8

Establishment of the CWDW 8

Foundation for Planning 11

Long-Range Interpretive Plan 11

Purpose of the Civil War Defenses of Washington 11

Statements of Significance 11

Primary Interpretive Themes 13

Goals of Interpretation 14

Audience Segments 14

Desired Visitor Experiences 15

Issues and Influences 16

Existing Conditions 19

The Setting 19

Information and Orientation 20

The Interpretive Experience 21

The Forts: Connecting to the Themes 23

Personnel 33

Recommendations 35

Interpreting the CWDW as a Single Unit 35

New Visitor Contact Opportunities 38

Visitor contact facility 39

Outdoor classroom/kiosk 45

Mobile unit 48

Interpretive Programs 48

Research Needed 48

Strategic Partnerships 48

Interpretive Infrastructure 49

Appendix A: Examples of Mobile Exhibits 52

Appendix B: Non-NPS Sites Open to the Public 62

Appendix C: Further Research Needed 63

Appendix D: The Planning Team 65





The sites that make up the National Park Service's Civil War Defenses of Washington (CWDW) offer unusual challenges to interpreters. The nineteen sites are administered by three different parks. They vary a great deal in appearance and content, from partial reconstruction, to no physical remains extant. Audiences can find it hard to grasp that these out-of-the-way sites are all part of a single defensive strategy that effectively protected the capital from enemy invasion during the Civil War.

This plan, therefore, focuses on strategies for reinforcing the idea of the forts as a single interpretive unit. In addition, it builds on recommendations put forth in the CWDW's 2004 General Management Plan (GMP) that discuss the need for new visitor contact opportunities. It discusses guidelines for a proposed new visitor contact facility, and recommends two additional innovative strategies for enhancing visitor contact: a series of simple outdoor classrooms that provide both unstaffed interpretation and space for teaching; and a mobile unit that can bring interpretation not only to each of the forts, but also to schools and other regional tourist destinations. The mobile unit also offers the opportunity for enhancing the National Park Service/CWDW brand as it travels throughout the city.

The plan recommends an approach to the development of strategic partnerships that builds on grassroots support. It recommends a number of strategies to improve the infrastructure that supports interpretive programs, including enhancing access to resources and consolidating existing information. The CWDW monthly e-newsletter will serve as a venue for promoting activities and keeping the public informed of the progress of implementing the recommendations in this plan.

Cannon at Fort Marcy. Fort Marcy may be the earliest of the CWDW.

Introduction

Today, nineteen surviving features of the system of defense termed the Civil War Defenses of Washington (CWDW) are administered by the National Park Service as parts of three established National Park units: Rock Creek Park (ROCR), George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP), and National Capital Parks-East (NACE). In Rock Creek Park, these sites include Forts Bayard, Reno, DeRussy, Stevens, Slocum, Totten, and Bunker Hill; Battery Kemble; and Battleground National Cemetery. George Washington Memorial Parkway administers Fort Marcy on the Virginia side of the Potomac, and National Capital Parks-East administers Forts Mahan, Chaplin, Dupont, Davis, Stanton, Ricketts, Greble, and Foote, as well as Battery Carroll.

Historical features at the sites range from partial reconstruction at Fort Stevens, to remnants of original earthworks (typical of many of the sites), to no surviving Civil War-era features at all (as at the former site of Fort Reno). Each of the sites that are linked to the historic forts plays an important role in its local community and is widely used, but most area residents have little idea either that the sites are historically significant, or that they are part of the National Park System.

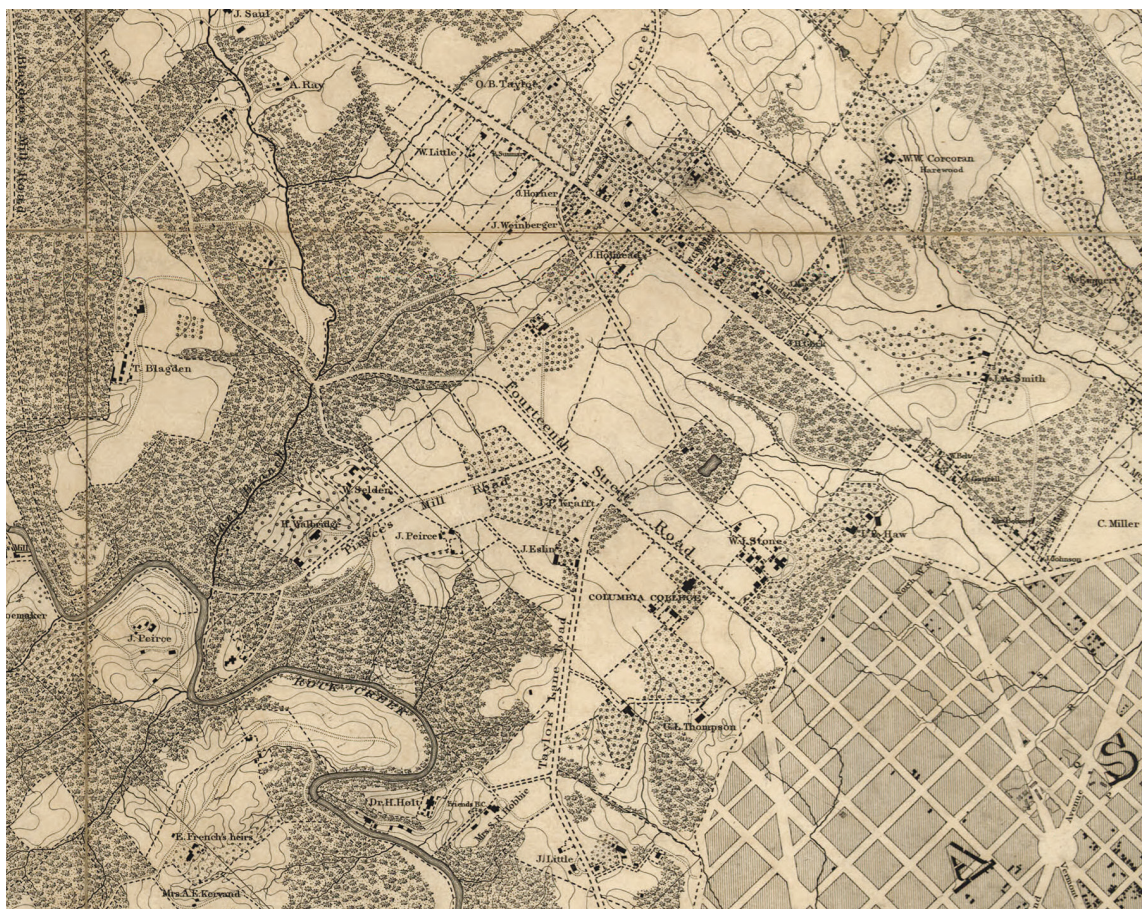
A small number of the original defense sites are managed and interpreted by other public agencies, which will serve as valuable interpretive partners to the Civil War Defenses of

Washington. These sites include Fort Ward, operated by the city of Alexandria, Virginia; Forts C. F. Smith and Ethan Allen, operated by Arlington County, Virginia; Fort Freedom Hill, minimally interpreted by Fairfax County, Virginia; and Battery Bailey, operated by the Montgomery (MD) County Department of Parks.

From Forts to Parks: Transforming the Landscape of Washington, DC

At the outset of the Civil War, the Federal capital of Washington, DC was ill-prepared for its own defenses against potential Confederate siege or invasion. As seen in the 1875 Topographical survey of the District, right, the densely gridded city stopped abruptly at “Boundary Street,” the limit of L’Enfant’s original urban design. Outside the city’s urban core was a rural landscape mosaic of larger estates and family farms, crossroads communities, turnpikes and farm lanes, and, critically, the topographic high ground. Quite unlike the views we see today, this dispersed and open rural environment was the landscape context for the engineered construction of the Civil War Defenses of Washington between 1862-65.

Reeling from the unexpected Confederate victory at First Manassas (Bull Run) in July, 1861, the task of fortifying the Capital fell to Major John G. Barnard, the US Army’s chief engineer. Relying on blueprints outlined by his West Point professor of engineering, Dennis



At the outset of the Civil War, the Federal capital was ill-prepared for its own defenses against potential Confederate siege or invasion.

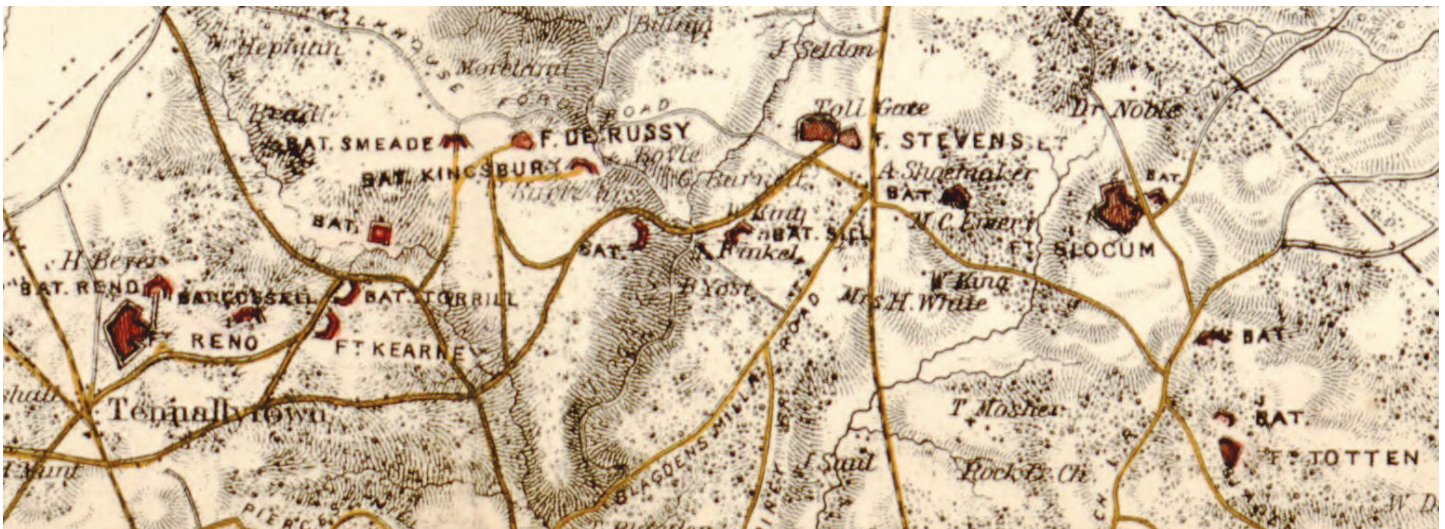
Map of Washington City, District of Columbia, seat of the federal government: respectfully dedicated to the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of North America / surveyed and published by A. Boschke C.E. 1857.

Hart Mahan, in his *Complete Treatise on Field Fortification* (1836), Barnard marshaled Union troops, civilians, and contrabands to transform the farms, fields, and woodlots—linked by toll roads and farm lanes—into a landscape of war.

By 1864, Washington had become one of the most fortified cities in the world, with an encircling array of forts, batteries, military roads, and ultimately at least two national cemeteries, including Battleground and Arlington. At the war's end, Barnard reported that the defenses of Washington included 68 enclosed forts and batteries, emplacements for 1,120 guns (with 807 guns and 98 mortars actually mounted), 93 unarmed batteries with 401 emplacements for field-guns, 20 miles

of rifle trenches, three blockhouses, and 32 miles of military roads linking the defenses.

At the conclusion of the War, the Federal Army outlined detailed plans for abandonment of the forts, batteries, and military road that had comprised the defenses of the Capital. The fact that the sites had been commandeered from private citizens meant that the majority of fort sites in this engineered landscape reverted to their previous owners, whose claims for damages provide descriptions of the changes to the rural countryside. Descriptions of the abandoned forts and their connecting military road that appeared in private memoirs and travel guides depict a forlorn landscape, although not without its romantic charm. As former war



Prior to the development of Civil War defenses, the farms, fields, and woodlots in Washington's outskirts were linked by toll roads and farm lanes.

Extract of military map of N.E. Virginia showing forts and roads, Engineer Bureau, War Dept., 1865.

correspondent G.A. Townsend wrote in 1873 in his *Washington, Inside and Out*,

All the forts around or overlooking the city are dismantled, the guns taken out of them, the land resigned to its owners. . . . Still the huge parapets of the forts stand upright, and the paths left by the soldiers creep under the invisible gun muzzles. Old boots, blankets, and canteens rot and rust around the glacis; the woods, cut down to give the guns sight, are overgrown with shrubs and bushes. Nature is unrestingly making war upon War. The strolls out to these old forts are seedily picturesque. . .

Remarkably, one eyewitness in 1869 described the abandoned military road in ways that prefigured the “Fort Drive” ideal some thirty years later when they referred to the road as a “boulevard” which, if landscaped, would rival the “famed drives surrounding Paris.” Throughout the travel guide descriptions and contemporary accounts, the appeal of the fort sites—and their commanding views of Washington—was not lost. Visible

on the high ground, they remained as visible reminders of the War, even in their ruinous state.

As Civil War participants galvanized in the late 1870s-1920s into memorial organizations such as the Grand Army of the Republic veterans and the Sixth Army Corps survivors, the desire to memorialize battlegrounds began to materialize, particularly at sites such as Fort Stevens when President Lincoln himself had come under Confederate fire. There, private investors and long-time community landholders such as Mrs. Betty Thomas, a free woman before the War, joined forces with the veterans to advocate for preservation of the sites. These efforts led to the establishment of Forts Davis and Dupont as parks within the DC public system by 1912.

Along with the efforts to preserve specific sites, the concept of a “drive” or later, a parkway, based on the connecting military road also garnered support. The “Fort Drive” hinted at by the 1869 account was echoed by city planners and engineers, beginning with Francis Blair’s “grand

avenue” in 1872, and solidifying in 1900-1901 as the “Fort to Fort Drive.” This idea was endorsed by the McMillan Commission’s plan (1902) of creating a continuous thread of public parks surrounding the city where the defenses had once stood as symbols of war. This concept provided the essential—and evolving—framework for subsequent efforts to preserve the fort sites. The creation of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission in 1924 added further impetus to the conceptual idea; it was charged with acquiring lands in the District of Columbia, Virginia, and Maryland, including some of the fort sites. The significance of the ambitious scheme was indicated by the involvement of such noted planners and landscape architects such as Charles Eliot II and Frederick Law Olmsted II between 1926-29.

Government acquisition of Civil War defenses between the establishment of Fort Dupont in 1916 and the work relief programs of the CCC in the 1930s provided an impetus to park design and reconstruction efforts at sites such as Fort Stevens, Stanton, Bunker Hill, and others. The Commission maintained the concept of the Fort Drive until residential development in the 1960 forced a re-evaluation of the connective roadway, and with the NPS, shifted its focus to preserving park lands at fort sites to provide public spaces for recreation, such as biking/hiking trails and the opportunities to interpret cultural and natural resources.

NPS park planning efforts in the late 1990s and early 2000s resulted in a General Management Plan for the Fort

Circle Parks, completed in 2004. This plan provided the foundation for the Civil War Defenses of Washington’s mission in preserving the historic fort sites, while allowing for public recreation – all through the continuous thread of bike and hiking trails recalling the military roads that once connected the defenses. The specific mission of the Fort Circle management is threefold:

- To preserve and interpret historical resources related to the Civil War Defenses of Washington.
- To conserve this linkage of urban green spaces that contributes to the character and scenic values of the nation’s capital.
- To provide recreational opportunities compatible with historic and natural resource values.

In 2010, NPS’s Connect Trails to Parks program and the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail provided funding for a collaborative effort between the NPS, City of Alexandria, and northern Virginia counties of Arlington and Fairfax, and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association. This effort identified and mapped self-guided hiking and bicycling routes connecting the fort sites. The April 2012 Capital Space plan included “Link the Fort Circle Parks” as one of its six “big ideas” for the City. While not the vehicular “grand avenue” or “parkway” envisioned over the past century and a half, the efforts toward integrating these historic places through green spaces has transformed the promise of the Fort Drive ideal from into real opportunities for public engagement.



Plaque at Fort Stevens commemorates Lincoln's perilous visit during the battle.

Long-Range Interpretive Plan

The LRIP defines the overall vision and long-term (5-7 year) interpretive goals of the CWDW interpretive program. The process that develops the LRIP defines realistic strategies and actions that work toward achievement of the interpretive goals. The Long-Range Plan features two phases. The foundation phase articulates significance, themes, and target audiences. The foundation section of this document addresses those elements of the plan, and includes a review of existing conditions. It was created in December, 2010, by a group of stakeholders and planners assembled for that purpose.

The second phase of the LRIP process recommends interpretive services, media, and partnerships for the site, looking ahead to the next five to seven years. A full text draft articulates those elements, and, after review, the long-range interpretive plan is finalized.

Purpose of the Civil War Defenses of Washington

Park purpose statements describe what specific purposes the park is intended to fulfill.

The *Final Management Plan, Fort Circle Parks, Washington, D.C., 2004*, identified the purposes of the CWDW:

- *To preserve and interpret historical resources related to the Civil War Defenses of Washington.*
- *To conserve this linkage of urban green spaces that contribute to the character and scenic values of the nation's capital.*
- *To provide recreational opportunities compatible with historic and natural resource values.*

Statements of Significance

Park significance statements describe what is distinctive about the combined resources of the park. The statements can reflect natural, cultural, scientific, recreational, and inspirational values, as well as other aspects. These statements summarize the importance of the park to the nation's natural and cultural heritage.

1. The CWDW, including forts, batteries, and rifle trenches, effectively deterred the invasion of the nation's capital by the Confederate Army during the Civil War, and are a tangible reminder of the capital city's rich Civil War history.

2. The scale, inventive design, and speed of construction of the CWDW reflect not only the urgency of protecting a national capital that was completely surrounded by hostile territory, but also a range of innovative engineering and communication technologies that furthered the war effort.

3. The defensive position of the forts on topographic high points surrounding the city provides an outstanding opportunity to explore the strategic interaction between environment and cultural history.

4. The CWDW include sites of military engagement within miles of the location of the very policy makers who were waging the war, including Fort Stevens, where President Lincoln came under direct enemy fire. It also includes the Battleground Cemetery, where the remains of Union soldiers killed in the Battle of Fort Stevens are interred.

5. The CWDW were havens of safety for the many so-called Contrabands and emancipated slaves who fled to Washington during the Civil War, and not only played an important role in the construction of the defensive line, but also permanently altered the demographics of the city by founding many of D.C.'s traditionally black communities. ("Contraband" is a historical term that refers to individuals who escaped slavery and sought refuge behind Union lines.)

6. The concept of a connecting parkway, the "Fort Drive," described as early as 1869, found its fullest expression in the McMillan Com-

mission's plan in 1901 and through the 1926-7 National Planning Commission's acquisition of fort sites, representing visionary urban planning efforts for public recreation aligned with the influence of the City Beautiful movement of the early 1900s.

7. The CWDW preserve significant natural features and processes within the context of a densely populated urban ecology, including substantial acreage of mature native hardwood forest, geologic and aquatic resources, and diverse habitats. Spatially, they provide viable corridors for maintaining both plant and wildlife diversity, provide exceptional recreational opportunities, and contribute to a healthier natural environment.

8. The forts and the green space around them help to shape, strengthen, and provide identity for neighborhoods and communities in the city through recreation, cultural events, and community gardens.





Abraham Lincoln,
lithograph,
date unknown

Primary Interpretive Themes

Primary interpretive themes embody the most important ideas or concepts communicated to the public about a park. They convey the significance of the resource, and highlight the links between tangible elements, intangible meanings, and universal concepts that are inherent in the park's resources. The themes connect resources to larger processes, systems, ideas, and values, and emphasize the relevance of park stories. They define the core content of the educational experiences the park offers, and serve as the building blocks upon which interpretive services and educational programs are based.

Theme 1: In the nation's capital, tense with the daily presence of war, the CWDW effectively deterred the advance of the Confederate Army and the invasion of the capital, and served as a proving ground for military innovation.

Theme 2: In transforming themselves from enslaved to emancipated, the Contrabands who sought freedom and security within the CWDW contributed to the construction of the defenses of Washington, founded many of Washington's traditionally Black communities, inspired their own and future generations, and helped to redefine the citizenry of the United States.

Theme 3: The preservation of the CWDW created significant natural corridors that offer opportunities to learn about nature in an urban setting, support species and habitat diversity, and enhance the city's environmental quality by contributing to stormwater runoff control, mitigation of the effects of urban heat islands, and by providing tree canopies for shade and cleaner air.

Theme 4: The CWDW sites represent visionary urban planning efforts at the turn of the century aimed at providing recreational opportunities through public parks, preserving significant historical and natural resources, and using the parkway concept as a continuous linkage of preserved public spaces at the advent of motorized travel.

Goals of Interpretation

These goals describe management's intent in offering interpretive and educational programs and services. The goals of interpretation are articulated at three levels: agency-wide, the National Capital Region of the National Park Service, and those of the Civil War Defenses of Washington.

National Park Service goals

(agency-wide):

"...to promote and regulate the use of the...national parks...which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

National Capital Region:

- Elevate awareness of the CWDW network within the NPS and in the eyes of the public.
- Interpret the CWDW as a network of sites.
- Exemplify collaborative interpretive approach between park units.
- Commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War and explore the causes, consequences, and lasting impacts of the war through interpretation and community engagement.

Civil War Defenses of Washington:

- Expand site audiences beyond Civil War scholars and enthusiasts.
- Emphasize youth involvement and stewardship.
- Expand community outreach efforts

to foster stewardship, involvement, and educational opportunities.

- Develop community constituency to advocate for the sites and local support for preservation of the forts, open spaces, and sensitive natural habitat.
- Develop physical interpretive spaces at a variety of sites, including Forts Stevens and Dupont.
- Encourage more involvement by local government and community leaders.
- Actively identify, document, and preserve known or potential historic and natural resources, utilizing this information to continually update interpretation of sites.

Audience Segments

The basis for categorizing audience segments for the interpretation and education program lies in whether or not a particular audience requires communication in a way that is distinct from that of the general park audience. Factors to consider include the life experiences of the individual or group, level of education, learning styles, language, cultural traditions, time available for interaction, and others.

Due to the lack of single or gated entrance points, CWDW visitation is difficult to track. The sites' diversity in terms of geographic distribution and accessibility, varying conditions of the forts, and the multiple recreation uses of many of the forts' green spaces make it extremely challenging to define and count visitors. As a result, few data exist regarding either visitor numbers or demographics.

Informally the audience for interpretive services at the sites includes a mix of local, recreational users, and Civil War military history visitors.

Audience segments at the Civil War Defenses of Washington include:

- **CIVIL WAR SCHOLARS AND ENTHUSIASTS**
- **TOURISTS** to other regional destinations
- **NEIGHBORS** of the various sites
- **VIRTUAL AUDIENCE**
- **CURRICULUM-BASED**, including youth and service groups
- **NATURALISTS** (people interested mainly in nature)
- **RECREATIONAL**
- **COMMUTERS** and local traffic on the George Washington Memorial Parkway and other local roads and trails

Functionally, these audiences can be grouped into four types of constituencies: 1) destination audiences who visit to learn more about one of the CWDW themes; 2) recreational audience, including neighborhood and community visitors; 3) visiting school groups; and 4) virtual visitors who access the CWDW via the internet.

Desired Visitor Experiences

Statements of desired visitor experiences describe how the park's interpretation and education program facilitates intellectual, inspirational, emotional, and physical experiences for visitors. These statements describe what visitors to the sites would like to learn, feel, do, or experience when visiting the sites

(either in person or remotely).

Park staff and stakeholders ranked the following statements as being most critical to the visitor experience:

Visitors want to:

- Understand how the system of forts and earthworks provided strategic defense to the nation's capital.
- Be inspired by the role of their local sites in preserving and sharing the stories related to the larger struggle for freedom for all and preservation of the Union during the Civil War.
- Participate in hands-on activities which help them understand the day-to-day life of the Civil War-era soldiers.
- Be able to understand and relate to the experiences of civilians and soldiers of all races and ethnicities at the forts.
- Know what a Civil War fort looked like, and see and touch elements of a fort, such as a cannon, first-hand.
- Experience the sights, sounds, and feelings of a natural environment.
- Recreate in the unique, locally accessible open spaces, trails, and natural areas of the CWDW sites.

Issues and Influences

This section includes issues and influences inside and outside the parks, resource-based issues, and internal issues that affect interpretation and education. Collectively, it reflects the perspectives of the Civil War Defenses of Washington upper management, as well as staff members and stakeholders. Issues and influences include opportunities, as

well as perceived needs. In addition, stakeholders particularly noted that cooperation between Arlington and Alexandria sites and organizations and the NPS has improved drastically in the last few years. They look forward to an evolving partnership.

Opportunities

- The use of non-personal media (such as brochures, film, and exhibits) in regional tourist destinations can provide an opportunity to promote awareness of the CWDW as a unit of the National Park System.
- The Washington, D.C. area offers multiple opportunities for interpretive partnerships, including multi-fort celebrations, joint walking trails, mutually sponsored programs, and cross-marketing.
- There is an opportunity for some of the forts to become destinations for tourists.
- Recommendations for areas of investment and community outreach for the CWDW have been identified by the Capital Space Plan. Capital Space is a multi-agency planning effort devoted to the preservation of Washington's parks and open spaces.
 - ◆ The Capital Space Plan could provide a framework for reaching out to and linking up with local communities.
- High school service requirements offer an opportunity to engage youth.
- Black History Month offers one of many opportunities to interpret the broader implications of the significance of the Civil War and the

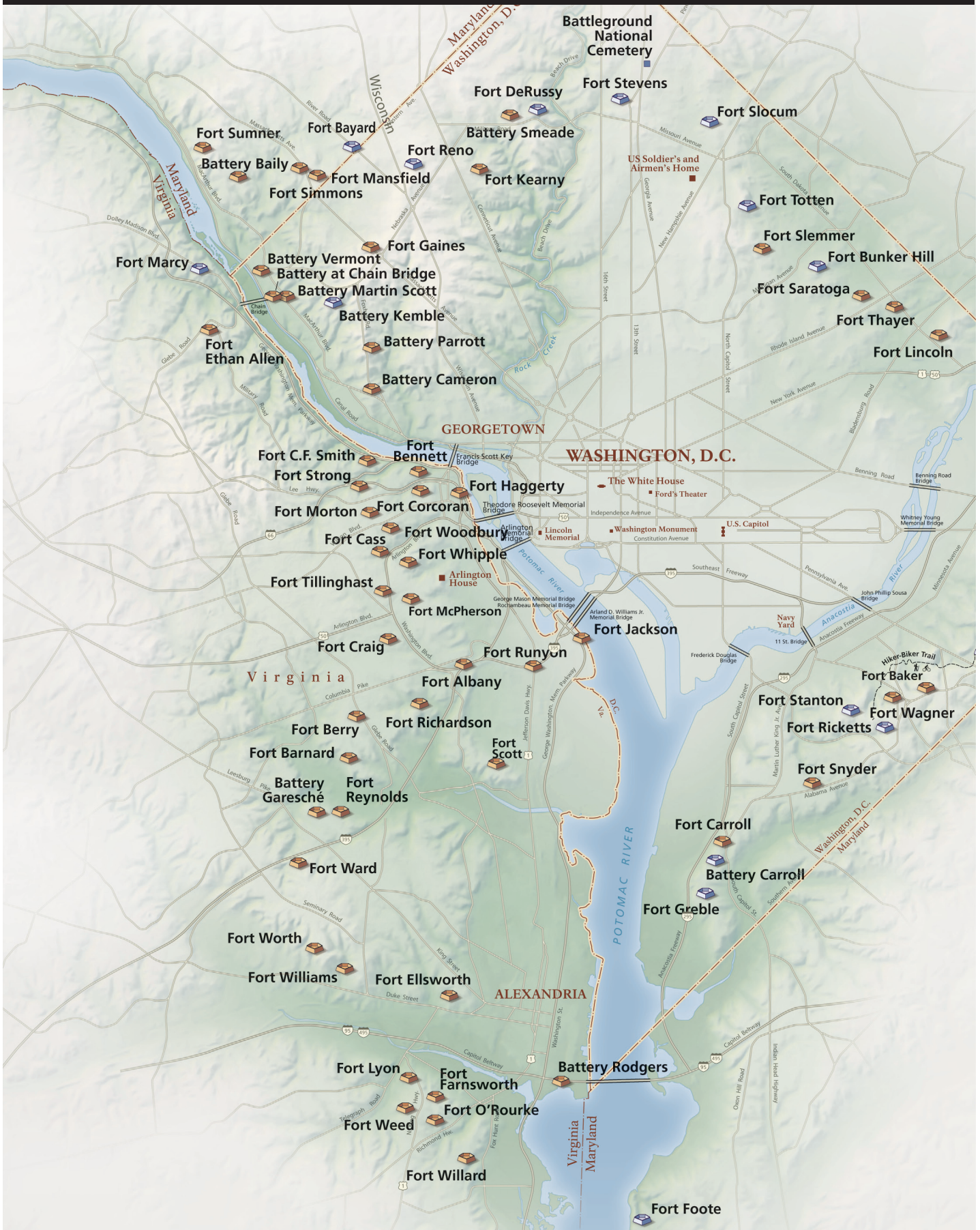
impact on the nation from various viewpoints.

- The sites' abundant natural resources attract new audiences to the Civil War significance of the fort parks. CWDW could create an exemplary model for interpreting natural and cultural elements in an integrated way.
- The CWDW provide opportunities to interpret the black communities that were created as a result of the influx of self-liberated refugees from slavery.

Issues

- There is a need to encourage community members to take psychological ownership of the sites by aligning, connecting, and emphasizing the message that each citizen is an important constituent.
- The sites need better branding, as well as better wayfinding to and within them.
- The sites need more amenities, including (in some cases) interpretive spaces or facilities.
- There is a need for a comprehensive NPS handbook on the CWDW.
- The preservation history of the forts should be interpreted.
- The Battle of Fort Stevens, especially during the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, should receive more emphasis. The fort system was tested – and the city saved – by the Civil War Defenses of Washington.
- Although it is not directly an NPS responsibility, there is a need for signage on local roads to indicate that the forts are part of the CWDW network.

Civil War Defenses of Washington



The Setting

The Civil War Defenses of Washington consist of a circle of parkland preserving the sites of historic forts and batteries that were part of a much more extensive historic network of defenses that surrounded Washington, D.C., during the Civil War. The circle encompasses the city, extending across NPS lands, private lands, and partner organizations' sites.

Covering about 400 acres of federal land, the individual locations, situations, and conditions of the forts span a wide range: from remnants of earthworks to recreational and open spaces with no remaining evidence of the earthworks to a partially reconstructed fort.

In addition to the defenses, the CWDW also include Battleground National Cemetery, the resting place of 40 Union soldiers who died in the Battle of Fort Stevens, and one Union veteran of the battle. This compact but deeply meaningful site is one of the smallest national cemeteries in the nation. It is administered by Rock Creek Park. The onsite Superintendent's Lodge, designed by Montgomery C. Meigs and the second smallest in a military cemetery, has been rehabilitated to serve as offices for the CWDW. Several NPS interpretive signs, and one by Cultural Tourism D.C., a non-profit coalition of cultural, heritage, and non-profit organizations, describe the site.

The CWDW compete for audiences in the extremely rich interpretive environment of Washington, D.C., with its free national museums and numerous historic sites and memorials. Tourists are less likely to make their way to most of the CWDW sites than to visit more readily accessible attractions,



Existing Conditions

**Final burial,
Civil War veteran, 1939.
(National Archives,
RG 79, Entry 7, Central
Classified File 1933-1939)**

**Superintendent's
Lodge designed by
Montgomery C. Meigs**

although Civil War military history visitors do travel to the forts. Rotary or Civil War roundtable groups from out of town visit the forts, among other sites in the D.C. area. Members of the sites' local communities make good use of the sites for recreation, but are often unaware of the sites' historical significance, or their status as part of the National Park System.



Information and Orientation

WAYFINDING. The geographic distribution of the CWDW presents unique wayfinding challenges, and wayfinding can vary widely among the individual fort sites. Most visitors do not seek to visit each site throughout the CWDW, but instead might choose one or two to visit, or, more likely, discover a fort and the CWDW history in the course of pursuing other recreational opportunities.

New signage identifying the forts has been created for all three park units. Some locations have bulletin boards on which maps are posted, or have brochures available. Other sites are identified by a bronze plaque affixed to a large rock, a commemoration installed by the Daughters of Union Veterans. At some sites, the remains of the fort are simply earthworks that are overgrown, largely unrecognizable as forts to the untrained eye, and would prove very difficult to locate without specialized knowledge of the forts and adjacent neighborhoods.

WEBSITE. The CWDW website (<http://nps.gov/cwdw>) offers standard NPS features, including directions and wayfinding instructions and a schedule of events. Visitors can view a site-by-site breakdown of the condition of and amenities available at each fort site. Visitors can also access park news and find a link to the CWDW Facebook page.

PRINTED MATTER. A number of brochures are available, including those for the Civil War Defenses of

Washington as a whole, the Battle of Fort Stevens, and Fort Marcy. At some sites, such as the Rock Creek Park Nature Center, visitors may access brochures for other area NPS sites, non-NPS historic sites, and guides to bicycle and hiking trails in Rock Creek Park, as well as the brochure for the Hiker-Biker Trail specific to CWDW.

The Interpretive Experience

Currently, interpretive services at the CWDW vary widely depending on the fort site being interpreted. Most commonly, visitors can read brochures, or attend a scheduled ranger talk.

INTERPRETIVE THEMES AT THE CWDW SITES. The Civil War Defenses of Washington consist of nineteen NPS sites managed by three different parks. As a result, the rangers who interpret the forts do not share a common knowledge base: many are well informed about the Civil War in general, and most of them know a great deal about the forts in their own park, but there is not as much interchange or cross-knowledge about sites in other parks.



The following table offers a preliminary listing of the themes that are represented most strongly at each fort, and indicates that the themes can be well supported throughout the CWDW.

New signs at the sites feature the CWDW logo

Please see page 23 for more details on potential ways stories for each fort can connect to CWDW themes. The table also identifies these for non-NPS partner forts (Arlington County and City of Alexandria in Virginia), as well as additional topics that do not fit any one fort, or are broad enough to encompass all the forts. It indicates which forts are rich with potential stories; as well as which forts and which connections need more research.

Theme 1: CW defense	Theme 2: Contrabands	Theme 3: Nature	Theme 4:Urban Planning	Sites with fewer obvious stories
Ft. Marcy	Battery Kemble	Ft. Marcy	Ft. Marcy	Ft. Bayard
Ft. DeRussy	Ft. Marcy	Ft. Dupont	Ft. Reno	Ft. Slocum
Ft. Stevens	Ft. Reno	Ft. DeRussy	Ft. DeRussy	Ft. Bunker Hill
Battleground National Cemetery	Ft. Stevens	Connecting lands	Ft. Stevens	Ft. Chaplin
Ft. Dupont	VA forts		Battleground National Cemetery	Ft. Davis
Ft. Stanton				Ft. Ricketts
Ft. Foote				Battery Carroll
				Fort Greble



The Forts and Their Stories

This table lists potential ways that stories for each fort might connect to specific CWDW themes. It also addresses thematic connections for non-NPS partner forts (Arlington County and City of Alexandria in Virginia), as well as additional topics that do not fit any one fort, or are broad enough to encompass all the forts. It indicates which forts are rich with potential stories; as well as forts, topics, and connections that need further research.

* These stories are referenced at least in part in the book *Mr. Lincoln's Fort*, by Benjamin Franklin Cooling III & Walton H. Owen II.

**View from site
of Fort Stanton**

Site	Theme 1 (Civil War)	Theme 2 (Contraband)	Theme 3 (Environment)	Theme 4 (Urban Planning)
Fort Marcy	<p>The only surviving fort that the NPS owns in Virginia. NPS actually owns ones that did not survive. Arlington County and City of Alexandria own other surviving VA forts</p> <p>Strategy: Chain Bridge, protected access to DC, connected to Fort Ethan Allen, Potomac River, and Pimmit Run</p> <p>Military interaction w/ and perception of the public</p> <p>*Daily life for females</p> <p>*Daily life for soldiers: practical jokes</p> <p>1861 Invasion of VA</p> <p>GRFA River Shots (Partner)</p> <p>CSA raids</p> <p>Connecting the forts: strong example of existing rifle pits between forts</p> <p>Early balloon corps</p> <p>Archaeology as a result of Vince Foster case</p> <p>'Sleeping Pickett' pardoned by Lincoln</p>	<p>Proximity to USCT story at TR Island</p> <p>It is believed that African Americans helped with the construction of Fort Marcy, but little is known about them, including if they were slaves or not</p> <p>Freedmen's Village/camps at TR Island, Arlington Cemetery</p> <p>DC slaves helping war effort, preserving and identifying with the nation's heritage.</p> <p>Arlington House: housekeeper protecting important objects</p> <p>Reminder: TR Island; Ft. Bennett in Arlington Country; & Fort C.B. Smith, Arlington Co.; do interpret earthworks</p>	<p>Potomac Gorge</p> <p>Woodlands</p> <p>Watershed</p> <p>Wildflowers</p> <p>Natural history, especially bird watching</p> <p>Fishing</p>	<p>Fort Drive/urban planning</p> <p>Potomac Heritage trail</p> <p>Mount Vernon Memorial Highway Loop</p> <p>Reconciliation (Memorial Ave. Bridge, designation of ARHO)</p> <p>Preservation/inclusion as part of GWMP. Was slated for destruction; story of community efforts including woman tied to tree to stop bulldozers</p> <p>Probably not part of Fort Drive – McMillan Commission recognized GWMP</p> <p>Link to Great Falls</p>

Existing Conditions

Site	Theme 1 (Civil War)	Theme 2 (Contraband)	Theme 3 (Environment)	Theme 4 (Urban Planning)
Battery Kemble	<p>Inner line of defense, supportive network of defense</p> <p>Bridge defenses</p> <p>Canal defenses</p> <p>Historic site transformed to venue for community recreation</p> <p>Confederate MD; MD divided; battles.</p> <p>Using geology of the area in fort construction</p> <p>Civilian support of troops</p> <p>Skirmishes</p> <p>CSA raids</p> <p>Farmhouse of southern sympathizer commandeered by Union</p> <p>Community grew out of forts' presence</p>	<p>Important black settlement now reflected only in historic schoolhouse and graveyard. (Private/inaccessible. In AA heritage trail and database of AA historic sites. Washington at Home – new chapter, 2nd edition.)</p>	<p>None immediately identified</p>	<p>Fort drive/Urban planning history</p> <p>Land acquired for Fort Drive</p> <p>Fort drive/urban planning</p> <p>The River Road was also Braddock's route (with a young G. Washington) during French & Indian War</p>
Fort Bayard	<p>Confederate MD; MD divided; battles.</p> <p>Using geology of the area in fort construction</p> <p>Civilian support of troops</p> <p>Skirmishes</p> <p>CSA raids</p> <p>Farmhouse of southern sympathizer commandeered by Union</p> <p>Community grew out of forts' presence</p>	<p>None immediately identified</p>	<p>None immediately identified</p>	<p>Fort drive/urban planning</p>

Site	Theme 1 (Civil War)	Theme 2 (Contraband)	Theme 3 (Environment)	Theme 4 (Urban Planning)
Fort Reno	<p>Battle of Ft. Stevens</p> <p>Jubal Early</p> <p>Destruction of a graveyard to build fort</p> <p>Lincoln visit</p> <p>*1st person accounts</p> <p>*Daily life: humor, disease</p> <p>Lookout Pt.</p>	<p>Reno City: large black settlement removed by eminent domain in 1930's; predominantly African American, low income.</p> <p>Landmarked black school: segregation of DC schools story.</p> <p>Contraband settlement? More research needed.</p>	<p>Now part of natural corridor.</p> <p>Highest point in DC</p>	<p>Community impacts/ evolution of the neighborhood</p> <p>Tenleytown: crossroads community. Fort was one of few built near an existing city.</p> <p>Ongoing military use due to high elevation.</p>
Fort DeRussy	<p>Battle of Fort Stevens</p> <p>*Camp Life: celebrations, "bathing parties"</p> <p>Transportation system (military road)</p> <p>Weaponry</p> <p>Military-citizen interactions</p> <p>Proximity to 2 largest slave-owning farms within DC until DC emancipation.</p> <p>Archaeology</p>	<p>Civil War changing DC community: confiscated properties, living in DC during the war, new residents vs. old (but these stories could apply to all forts.)</p> <p>Slave-owning farmers in Rock Creek Valley/ Northwest DC</p>	<p>Rock Creek Park: natural habitat/creek preservation</p> <p>Civil War-era enjoyment of natural areas</p> <p>Rock Creek as a divider of early DC</p>	<p>Urban planning/ landowners/Rock Creek park development</p> <p>McMillan Commission</p> <p>Only fort in Rock Creek Park</p> <p>Changing landscape of DC and connection of America's Parks idea to Rock Creek Park</p>
Fort Stevens	<p>Battle of Fort Stevens</p> <p>Early DC road</p> <p>Camp life</p> <p>Signal corps</p> <p>Lincoln command</p> <p>Archaeology</p> <p>Medicine, field care, and treatment</p> <p>First person accounts</p> <p>Local DC leaders – Mr. Emery. War profit, housed soldiers.</p> <p>Role of Emory Church in building fort.</p>	<p>Camp Brightwood, strong free black community predating emancipation</p> <p>Military Road School</p> <p>Civilian stories beyond the battlefield</p> <p>"Aunt Betty" – free black woman whose land was taken</p> <p>Abolitionists in North (150th DVI)</p> <p>Union soldiers views on abolition</p>	<p>None immediately identified</p>	<p>7th St. turnpike</p> <p>Development on battlefields</p> <p>Civil War preservation movement of 1900's</p> <p>McMillan Plan</p> <p>Preservation of the fort and CCC involvement</p>

Existing Conditions

Site	Theme 1 (Civil War)	Theme 2 (Contraband)	Theme 3 (Environment)	Theme 4 (Urban Planning)
Battleground National Cemetery	<p>The price of freedom, designation as hallowed ground</p> <p>Lincoln designation? (needs more research)</p> <p>Links with Walter Reed, Fort Stevens, Fort DeRussy: the trail of the battle</p> <p>Reconstruction and reconciliation</p> <p>The correct names of men buried there</p> <p>Grave of 17 unknown CSA soldiers in Silver Spring</p>	<p>Abolitionists in North (150th DVI)</p> <p>Union soldiers views on abolition</p>	<p>None immediately identified</p>	<p>Developments on battlefields, conflicts over battlefield preservation</p> <p>Lodge House design: Architect Meigs, aqueduct, etc.</p>
Fort Slocum	<p>*1st Person Letter</p> <p>Opening shot of Battle of Fort Stevens</p>	<p>None immediately identified</p>	<p>None immediately identified</p>	<p>WWII victory gardens</p> <p>Fort Drive</p>
Fort Totten	<p>Took part in Battle of Ft. Stevens</p> <p>Proximity to Lincoln's summer cottage</p> <p>Early's Raid</p> <p>*1st person accounts</p>	<p>Proximity to Camp Barker, one of the first contraband communities; founding member of Shaw and U Street cultural communities</p> <p>Disease</p> <p>Howard University</p>	<p>Metropolitan Branch Trail</p> <p>Trail connectivity</p> <p>Hiking/Biking</p>	<p>Most evident earthwork damage/ example of impact</p> <p>Great views of city</p> <p>Fort Drive/Urban Development and DC Metro</p> <p>Community Garden history</p>
Fort Bunker Hill	<p>Confederate MD</p> <p>*Visit from Mrs. Stephen Douglas</p> <p>*Daily life: cake from home, deadly prank</p> <p>*1st person letter re. Lincoln assassination</p> <p>Fort name origins</p>	<p>Proximity to Ft. Lincoln/ USCT story</p> <p>Contraband camps in NE (downtown) DC</p> <p>Connection to Brookline community? One of earliest integrated communities; many prominent African American residents. More research needed.</p> <p>Research needed on impact on communities throughout all the forts.</p>	<p>None immediately identified</p>	<p>Urban planning and CCC projects</p> <p>WWII victory garden</p> <p>Planned Gandhi monument (never realized)</p>

Site	Theme 1 (Civil War)	Theme 2 (Contraband)	Theme 3 (Environment)	Theme 4 (Urban Planning)
Fort Mahan	Bridge defense Laborers/nearby labor camp *"Dens of vice" in barracks *School for soldiers in mess hall	Connection to Deanwood? 1 of DC's oldest traditionally African American communities. Link to Deanwood Heritage Trail. More research needed. Nearby slave-owning farm End of slavery in USA	Wildflowers Nature in an urban area	Forts transformed to parks Demolished for football field.
Fort Chaplin	Example of unmanned fort MD Confederacy Continued improvements to the system; not original, constructed after Battle of Fort Stevens, which led to major improvements to many forts	Woodlawn cemetery Black history post-Civil War	Nature Hiker Biker Trail connectivity	Mahan to Greble Fort Drive story
Fort Davis	Differences in land claims (e.g., vs. DuPont)	None immediately identified	None immediately identified	Preservation efforts
Ft. Stanton	Proximity to Booth's escape Strategic defense of capital Construction of forts of both earth and stone Signal corps Engineering "tinkering" *1st person accounts Continued improvements to CWDW system	Slave-owners at time of CWDW – proximity to slave-owning farm? Contraband story	Recreation and nature connections	Great views of city McMillan Commission Carriage Ride
Ft. Ricketts	Proximity to Booth's escape	Slave-owning landholders of DC at the time	Recreation in DC	Preservation of lands: trails, museum, parks; Fort Drive
Battery Carroll	Differences between forts and batteries *Thanksgiving letter home	Movements along the rivers	Fish as a resource	Fort drive/Shepard Parkway

Existing Conditions

Site	Theme 1 (Civil War)	Theme 2 (Contraband)	Theme 3 (Environment)	Theme 4 (Urban Planning)
Fort Greble	Cavalry depot object of confederate raid? More research *1st person accounts of life *Capture of “rebel captain” *Daily life: laborers, food/fruit, religious services, “fishing pole” story Land claims	Importance of the rivers to CW Fish as resource	Fish as resource	Fort drive/Shepard Parkway
Fort Foote	Advances in artillery Shock of ironclads leads to building of fort on river Protection from navies Military through the ages (WWI and II) 9th NY Heavy Artillery/ William Seward Visit by Lincoln WWI training ground Big guns Compare earth forts to stone Waterfront defense over time Troops alerted/patrol for Lincoln assassin Visiting dignitaries Considered “state of the art” *Daily life: food, target practice, sick soldiers	MD politics of secession vs. Lincoln and suspension of <i>habeas corpus</i>	Animal habitat along the river	Capper/Crampton Act 1933 purchase for parkway Park once under DC Rec?

Site	Theme 1 (Civil War)	Theme 2 (Contraband)	Theme 3 (Environment)	Theme 4 (Urban Planning)
Partner Forts (in Virginia): Ethan Allen; C.F. Smith; Ward; Willard; Battery Rodgers Ft. Richardson, now a private country club	<p>Lack of combat there (effective deterrent)</p> <p>Occupation of "enemy" territory</p> <p>Civilian life in occupied Northern VA</p> <p>Signal stations</p> <p>Heavy artillery regiments later involved in overland campaigns</p> <p>Connection to Marcy</p> <p>Military roads – Arlington and DC</p> <p>Cut trees for sight line between forts, E.A. to Marcy: changed the landscape</p>	<p>Freedmen's village and contrabands</p> <p>Arlington cemetery established by Union</p> <p>Construction and maintenance of forts</p>	<p>Partner with VA and MD Native Plant society?</p> <p>Potomac watershed</p> <p>Birding</p>	<p>Biking and hiking route</p> <p>Preservation and restoration of Ft. Ward</p> <p>Private preservation of Ft. Richardson</p>



Interpretive Programs

Interpretation of the CWDW is presented by staff of each of the three managing parks, under the direction of the CWDW's Program Manager. Programs including interpretive talks, interpretive trail hikes, and "bring your own" bike rides are regularly scheduled or available for groups by appointment at all fort sites. The brochure and website also feature a map of self-guided trails that connect the forts as well as CWDW partners. Concert series are offered at Forts Dupont and Reno, including "Opera in the Park" at the former. At Fort Stevens, a yearly event commemorating the battle occurs in July. The event can include living history programs, period music, guided hikes, ranger talks, and guest speakers. The parks are pursuing the possibility of incorporating

Ranger talk
at Fort Stevens



increased living history into the array of annual and routine interpretive experiences. On National Trails Day, the CWDW sites feature events, workshops, and work projects. Feet in the Street is a recreation-oriented annual event held at Fort Dupont, and sponsored by the District of Columbia. In addition to recreational activities, guest speakers occasionally present lectures on Civil War topics at this event, which is free and open to the public.

Typical programs presented in the spring of 2011 included the following listings. Note that many programs are offered at a variety of sites in addition to the CWDW's forts.

Arlington House, Lee's Great

Decision: Talks, tours, music, and learning about the momentous decision Robert E. Lee made 150 years ago.

Arlington House, Robert E. Lee:

Vigil commemorating the resignation of Robert E. Lee with tours, dramatic readings of his letters, and view of Washington at night.

Arlington House: Learn about the strategic importance of Arlington House during the Civil War.

Battleground National Cemetery, The Battle of Fort Stevens and the Price of Freedom:

Learn about the momentous Battle of Fort Stevens and the cost in human lives while in a cemetery containing the remains of men who died defending Washington.

Benning Road Library, Civil War Defenses of Washington Hike:

Exciting, engaging discussion about times of the Civil War and Civil War fortifications.

Fort Bayard, Civil War Proving

Ground: The battles of the Mexican American War produced the officers that would lead both sides into and out of the Civil War. Join a Ranger to learn about these men and the war that taught them to lead.

Fort Bunker Hill, The Enemy Within, Maryland Confederates: Visit a fort that protected Washington from the Old Line State and learn about Marylanders with divided loyalties and the events that tested the strength of the Union.

Fort DeRussy Hike: Discover what life was like for Union soldiers encamped at Fort DeRussy.

Fort Dupont, 1 of 75,000: At the beginning of the Civil War President Lincoln made a call for 75,000 volunteers to help the Army quell what everyone thought would be a brief rebellion.

Fort Dupont, A Capital View: 5-mile mountain bike ride to visit a number of forts and take in the history and the views.

Fort Dupont, Earth Day Clean Up: Explore trails and help clean up the park.

Fort Dupont, Hiker/Biker Trail Series: Hike a segment of the trail from Fort Dupont to Fort Mahan.

Fort Dupont, Jazz Appreciation Month Programs: Jazz history and music sponsored by the National Park Service and the Smithsonian Museum, with special guest performances, discussions, and activities.

Fort Dupont, The Weeks Before First Manassas: Learn about the

atmosphere culminating in the first major battle of the Civil War.

Fort Dupont, Topography of Defense: Join a Ranger for a 5-mile mountain bike ride and discover how DC took advantage of the landscape to defend the capital then, and offer amazing views now.

Fort Foote, Ironclads and Aircraft Carriers: The Civil War was a time of leaps forward in the technology of war. See the massive guns at Fort Foote and learn about the ships of the Civil War Navy.

Fort Greble, After the War: With the end of the Civil War, the land the forts were built upon was returned to its owners until prominent Washingtonians saw a chance to leave a legacy of parks for future generations.

Fort Mahan, Wildflower Identification Hike: Learn about nature and wildflowers.

Fort Foote, Through the Ages: Learn about the continually evolving defenses of Washington from 1812 to the present day.

Fort Marcy, Occupied Virginia: Learn what it was like for Northern Virginians when Federal troops surged across the Potomac and began constructing the Civil War Defenses of Washington.

Fort Stanton, Escape of an Assassin: Learn how John Wilkes Booth fled the capital after the assassination of Lincoln.

Fort Stevens, Signs of Reconciliation: After 4 years of the Civil War, the nation patched itself

together in a number of ways. Join a Ranger to discover in just how many places this legacy of reconciliation can still be experienced.

Fort Totten, A Tactical Civil War:

Learn how the generals of the Civil War adapted to the changing battlefield as advancement in weaponry changed the tactics of war.

Memorial Day Weekend at Battleground National Cemetery

Rededication: Remembering the 41 Union soldiers buried here; see the re-opened historic Lodge House.

Old Town Alexandria, Life in

Civil War Alexandria: Discover how Alexandria was transformed by the Civil War at a large living history event on the weekend of the 150th anniversary of Alexandria's occupation by Union troops.

Theodore Roosevelt Island,

Pathways to Freedom: Learn about the African American perspective of the Civil War and the transition many made from slavery to freedom, including those of contrabands, freedmen, and US Colored Troops.

Various forts, Civil War Trust

clean-up: Help volunteers from the CWT with multiple service projects.

Various locations, Potomac

Watershed Clean-up: Help the National Park Service make sites better places for recreation and help the environment.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS. The CWDW are underutilized as an educational entity for all grade levels. School groups do visit some fort

sites, particularly Fort Stevens. The CWDW website provides teachers with a downloadable document about the context of the CWDW, including historical background, themes, suggestions, and further resources.

The parks also make available an extensive CWDW curriculum package, which includes Civil War-related themes, resources, primary document analysis, lesson plans, a schedule of events, and other resources. In addition, CWDW collaborates with a consortium of Civil War historic sites to provide the Civil War Washington Teachers Fellows program during the summer. The program introduces teachers to local historic resources on the Civil War and provides a forum for the teachers to explore teaching the Civil War in the classroom.

INTERPRETIVE MEDIA. The most common media to be found at the fort sites are wayside panels. Most sites, such as Fort Foote, have NPS interpretive panels. In a few locations, such as Fort Reno and National Battleground Cemetery, these are augmented by interpretive trail markers sponsored by Cultural Tourism D.C. Still others feature bronze plaques installed by the Daughters of Union veterans. Some have brochures available and/or information posted on a bulletin board, and some have a combination of these elements.

At Fort Stevens, which is among the most extensively interpreted of the forts, visitors can see the partial

reconstruction that was put in place in 1937-38 by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), read an interpretive panel, see replica cannons, look at and touch a bronze relief map of the area, and see a depiction in bronze of President Abraham Lincoln at the Battle of Fort Stevens.

Podcasts are also available for Fort Stevens and the Battleground Cemetery. These podcasts are very in-depth and could be repackaged into chapters and linked directly to interpretive wayside exhibits. Student projects and songs about the forts and the Battle of Fort Stevens are available on YouTube. Cell phone coverage is poor for many of the forts so this medium is not considered viable for these sites at this time.

WEBSITE. The website makes available background information and history, historic photos, artifacts, maps, podcasts, and multimedia presentations, as well as information about nature and science focused on the flora, fauna, natural resources, and ecosystems of the CWDW. Teachers can access the first draft of a document about the historical context of the forts, and students can access junior ranger materials.

Personnel

The CWDW represents collaboration between three NPS park units: Rock Creek Park, George Washington Memorial Parkway, and National Capital Parks-East. The Program Manager functions administratively



through the Rock Creek Park unit, and coordinates with senior staff and site managers from all three units, as well as supervisory rangers, park guides, and park rangers from ROCR, NACE, and GWMP. The CWDW Project Manager also works closely with other staff and in roles that support all the sites within each park unit.

Traditional bronze marker at Fort Reno

Bronze relief map of Fort Stevens



RECOMMENDATIONS for the Civil War Defenses of Washington center on specific interpretive challenges: 1) interpreting the CWDW as a single conceptual unit; 2) addressing the need for new opportunities for visitor contact; 3) ongoing development of interpretive programs; 4) development of strategic partnerships; and 5) the need to strengthen interpretive infrastructure to support interpretive programming. The recommendations serve as a broad platform of actions; specific items will be implemented depending on resources, opportunities, and priorities.

Interpreting the CWDW as a Single Unit

For a historical point of view, it is vital that CWDW audiences understand the forts, batteries, and other features as a network intended to protect the city from enemy invasion. It is also important that visitors understand this interconnected network as a modern day feature of urban D.C., with a strong impact on how the public uses and interacts with the park units, individually or as a connected network.

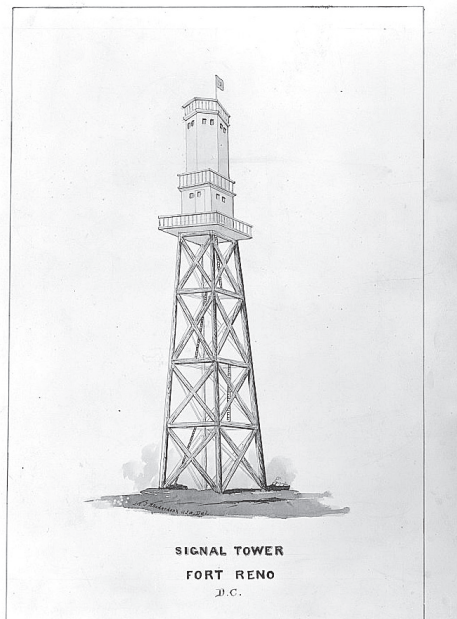
The fact that the Civil War Defenses of Washington sites are under the management of three different national park units creates challenges for the interpretation team. Each of the interpreting parks has a wide variety of additional interpretive priorities that must be addressed by existing staff members.

The CWDW vary greatly in condition and features, from partly reconstructed Fort Stevens, to Fort Reno, of which no trace exists, which is interpreted by wayside exhibits only. In addition, the sites are dispersed across the city, making



it difficult for visitors to think of and understand the forts as part of a single defensive perimeter erected to protect the capital during the Civil War.

Illustration of the signal tower once in place at Fort Reno, the highest point in the District of Columbia



EXISTING STRATEGIES. Some strategies for linking the forts are already either in place or in the planning stages. These include:

- A coordinated signage system. Installation of waysides with a common graphic identity is underway for each of the CWDW sites.
- The CWDW brochure and Hiker/Biker map portray the sites as a ring around the city. The maps include the sites of forts that are 1) no longer extant, and 2) interpreted by non-NPS organizations, reinforcing the idea of the circle of forts.
- Planning is underway to extend the trail network, linking the forts in ways similar to those originally planned for the Fort Drive concept.
- The National Park Service will be partnering with the American Hiking Society to do further community outreach around the trail network and will be working in tandem with a graduate design studio as part of “Designing the Parks” 2012 competition.

WEBSITE. With so many potential visitors researching future trips on the Internet, the CWDW website offers excellent opportunities to interpret the forts as a single unit. Recommendations include:

- Create a “Virtual Fort Drive” that allows visitors to the website to “travel” along virtual military roads to each fort, where they can see period maps, images, and architectural/engineering drawings; enjoy virtual views into and out of the city (with trees “virtually” removed to improve site lines); toggle between different time periods; view primary documents; and click on links to information about each fort/site and the people who served, lived, or were interred there.
- Create a short podcast for each of the forts.
- Incorporate a bird’s-eye-view flyover of the Virtual Fort Drive that emphasizes the various habitats linked by connecting green space, emphasizing its importance in maintaining biological diversity and other key environmental benefits.
- Create a panoramic image of the D.C. skyline with fort positions marked.
- Create a podcast/virtual trail guide



to the Hiker-Biker Trail for viewing online.

- Provide links to other Civil War-related NPS sites, especially in D.C.
- Provide a link to locations of programs to be presented by the CWDW mobile unit, perhaps including a mobile unit-mounted web cam. (See below for more information about the recommended mobile interpretive unit.)

Additional recommendations for the CWDW website to be implemented in the future (beyond the scope of this plan) include:

- An animated battle map showing Confederate troop movements and events at the Battle of Fort Stevens.
- Virtual exhibit of fort-related objects.
- Trace the history of a single unit stationed at one of the forts throughout the war, including before and after

their services in the CWDW.

- Post the personal stories of the soldiers interred at Battleground National Cemetery.
- Create a cannon interactive animation that allows users to calculate effective firing trajectories.

LINKING VIEWSHEDS. The following recommendations require careful study and evaluation to assure compliance and effective outcome. The range of options include:

- Clear trees to show the areas certain forts were meant to protect (e.g., Fort Foote protecting the entrance to the river; Fort Marcy protecting the Chain Bridge, etc.)
- Place viewing towers at some forts.
- Create a website link that incorporates great views from and into various neighborhoods.
- Consider augmented reality

**Former site
of Fort Reno**

Overgrown trees block the view of the Potomac River from Fort Foote.



(perhaps using historic imagery via a smart phone application) that shows what the view used to look like from some of the forts.

- Promote the Netherlands Carillon adjacent to Arlington National Cemetery as a place from which to enjoy a view of the circle of forts.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS.

The following recommendations are included as suggestions for future development of strategies to reinforce the idea of the forts as a unit. They are unlikely to be implemented during the course of the 5-7 years covered by this LRIP.

- A smart phone application/cell phone tour.
- Computer kiosks in multiple locations throughout the city.
- Traveling exhibits.
- Junior Ranger booklet for the whole system that emphasizes connectivity.

- An introductory film/DVD that could be widely distributed.
- Something to collect for each fort (like trading cards, with an educational component.)

New Visitor Contact Opportunities

Recommendations for new visitor contact opportunities for the CWDW are guided by the 2004 General Management Plan. The GMP's directives include:

- Under Visitor Use and Development: the GMP calls for the LRIP to address "*interpretive staffing, visitor center exhibits, publications, wayside exhibits, and other interpretive media such as a video and an audio-tour tape.*"
- Regarding a visitor contact facility for the CWDW, the GMP states: "*A small year-round visitor contact facility will be developed in the*

vicinity of Fort Stevens. This will become a focal point of the system, offering visitor orientation and interpretation and serving as the start of a driving tour of the forts.”

- Regarding the Fort Dupont Activity Center, the GMP states that it will be: *developed as an educational center for school and community groups, offering programs in cultural history, natural history, and environmental education. It will promote community partnerships by helping schools within walking distance of fort sites to use the sites as local outdoor classrooms for both cultural and environmental education.*
- In addition, the GMP identifies Fort Marcy as a key location for interpreting the CWDW, although it states that no new structure will be created there.

Based on these directions provided by the GMP, recommendations regarding interpretive venues for visitor contact include 1) a new visitor contact facility, either located in the vicinity of Fort Stevens, or the Fort Dupont Activity center repurposed or replaced as a CWDW visitor contact facility (or both), and 2) an outdoor unit that can serve as interpretive kiosk and outdoor classroom and could be installed (sometimes at a reduced scale) at any of the fort sites. Finally, in addition, recommendations are included for 3) development of a mobile interpretive unit that could enhance programming at each of the forts, at schools, and at other offsite venues.

New Visitor Contact Facility

While the final decision regarding eventual placement of the CWDW visitor contact facility will be a matter for the parks’ management teams, certain considerations pertain, no matter the eventual location. In addition, there will be different goals for each of three potential audiences that will experience the visitor contact facility.

VISITOR CONTACT FACILITY

AUDIENCES. Potential audiences for the visitor contact facility are 1) destination visitors who want to learn more about one of the CWDW themes, 2) recreational users, including neighborhood and community residents, and 3) visiting school groups.

Goals for destination visitors.

The destination visitor comes specifically to learn about the site’s stories. The visitor may be a “Civil War buff,” with extensive background knowledge of the conflict, or a “typical” tourist with limited detailed knowledge of the Civil War. The main goal for this audience is *providing information at appropriate levels of detail*. Information should be available for the casual visitor as well as in-depth information for scholars and researchers and Civil War history enthusiasts. In addition, the CWDW has an opportunity to interpret the larger story of Washington during the war (not just the forts), and that interpretation should also include the post-Civil War context in

Washington, especially including the role and impact of African Americans and how the city changed as a result of the war.

Goals for recreational/neighborhood/community visitors.

Goals for this group center on *providing amenities and meeting basic needs*, as well as developing ways to *encourage community “ownership” of, connection with, and repeat visitation to the fort sites.*

Goals for visiting school groups.

While the CWDW website and other types of media may serve a school audience beyond those who actually visit the sites, school groups who come to the forts for curriculum-based learning will have specific goals. They will look for *experiences that engage all the senses; immersion in the Civil War stories for all ages; and use of first-person accounts and primary documents to make CWDW themes come alive.*

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOR A “GENERIC” VISITOR CONTACT FACILITY. No matter the ultimate location for a CWDW visitor contact facility, certain characteristics should be incorporated. These include:

- All four primary interpretive themes should be addressed.
- The location must be well located and easy to find, with a clearly marked main entrance that draws people in.
- The location must be sensitive to the cultural and historical landscape.
- The visitor contact facility should

be modern and attractive, and contribute to community pride.

- Through an appropriate visitor contact facility, the CWDW could become a model of urban engagement and serve as a conduit for new audiences.

DESIRED FEATURES OF A NEW VISITOR CONTACT FACILITY.

Again, no matter the final location for a CWDW visitor contact facility, certain features will be desired.

These include:

- LEED green building/sustainable standards, and interpreted as such.
- Appropriate site design for its setting.
- Minimal staff required.
- Space for training, meetings, etc., in addition to interpretive opportunities.
- Outdoor program area.
- Accessible design.
- Adequate parking.
- Bike racks and outdoor orientation for bikers.
- Restrooms and basic comfort amenities, including outdoor access for recreational users.
- Sales area.
- Theater (for showing film) and classroom/program space that is separate from the film space.
- Flexible outdoor exhibit and program spaces that provide an informal introduction to the site.
- Safe trails that connect communities.
- State of the art interpretive technology.

- Flexible exhibit space.
- Traditional exhibit spaces.
- Family learning spaces.
- Interactive exhibits involving both Civil War and urban ecology.
- Visitor feedback protocol.
- Staffed information desk.
- Community space for meetings.

OTHER DESIRED FEATURES INCLUDE:

- Feedback mechanism (to learn communities' wishes and needs).
- Adult programs on complex topics which apply to the various sites, such as Civil War to Civil Rights, duties of citizens to this country and the District of Columbia, how to work with Congress, resource protection, and urban gardening.
- Hands-on history programs that allow visitors, especially children, to touch and experience Civil War and natural objects.
- Local history programs centered on the neighborhood of each fort.
- A way to extend the interpretive experience by providing information on other local programs and places to go.
- A way to orient visitors to the geography and recreational/interpretive possibilities of the sites and provide safety messages.
- Mechanism to communicate ways visitors can get involved/learn more.
- Ways to provide a continual variety of program options to enhance repeat visits.

VISITOR CONTACT FACILITY

OPTIONS. Following the guidelines presented in the 2004 General Management Plan for a new CWDW visitor contact facility, two general possibilities were considered: a center in the vicinity of Fort Stevens, and repurposing the Fort Dupont Activity Center. Each of the possibilities involves several possible additional options.

New visitor contact facility near Fort Stevens.

This is the directive articulated in the CWDW's General Management Plan (GMP). Fort Stevens has the advantage of being the focus of many Civil War enthusiasts, but placing a visitor contact facility there could detract attention from the other, less-visited forts. A number of options remain possible for this visitor contact facility iteration. They include:

- *“Temporary” building at Fort Totten.* Totten is well connected to the other forts, with good, relatively easy public access. A temporary building or trailer erected there could reinforce the NPS/CWDW brand, and may be installed in a manner that has fewer impacts to historical resources. However, no additional staff is available at Fort Totten.
- *Closer to Fort Stevens.* A number of possibilities have been considered for a new venue closer to Fort Stevens:
 - ♦ *Nearby storefront.* This possibility has been mentioned but has not yet been explored in detail.

Recommendations

Rock Creek Park Nature Center



- ♦ *Space shared with neighboring church.* Office space has been offered as part of the church's ongoing redevelopment plan for new facilities. The church may be interested in sharing a community center-type space with programming, but the time frame of the redevelopment initiative is uncertain.
- ♦ *Temporary building on site* (unlikely).
- ♦ *Freestanding kiosk.*
- ♦ *Superintendent's Lodge.* This venue, currently renovated to serve as headquarters for the CWDW, has been considered as a possibility, but has a number of drawbacks that make it unsuitable. These include the building's historic fabric, its small spaces, lack of handicapped accessibility, and its location in a cemetery, a sacred space perhaps not suitable for a wide variety of public programs.
- ♦ *Rock Creek Park Nature Center.* The possibility of the CWDW visitor contact facility sharing

the Rock Creek Park Nature Center has been discussed. The LRIP for Rock Creek Park references the fort stories, especially those of the Contrabands, as a series of subthemes under a Cultural History primary theme. Planning for new exhibits is already underway, and inclusion of an additional set of CWDW themes might crowd existing spaces, unless the building's footprint could be expanded. Rock Creek is not far from Fort Stevens, and the Fort DeRussy earthworks are a short walk from the Nature Center, which is already staffed.

Fort Dupont Activity Center.

The possibility of creating a CWDW visitor contact facility at Fort Dupont also includes a number of options:

- *New "temporary" structure near Fort Dupont earthworks.* This would create staffing challenges unless the building could be created in such a way that staffing would not be needed. The Fort Dupont staff is already stretched



Exhibits at Rock Creek Park Nature Center

thin during weekends and events, so staffing a unit near the earthworks would be difficult.

- *Repurpose existing facility to accommodate Civil War and nature themes.* This location reinforces the “bigger picture:” the concept of the forts as a circle surrounding the city, including in the Anacostia area. The activity center is an existing, staffed building, although it now functions more as Fort Dupont’s headquarters, as there is not sufficient staffing to open the building to the public. It is at quite a distance from the actual Fort Dupont earthworks (1.75 miles by road, and 1.5 miles by trail).
- *Current building replaced.* Although there are not, at present, any plans to replace the existing building, the structure is not energy efficient, and does not have fire suppression equipment installed. It does not meet conservation standards for the protection of collection objects. Restrooms are inadequate; it needs restrooms that are accessible from the exterior, for public access when the building is closed. It should be

a flexible, community-based space. Improvements to the building would tie in with recent urban environmental justice-oriented projects to clean up Anacostia. It could serve both as headquarters for the CWDW, and as Fort Dupont Park’s nature center, while also accommodating other NPS departments, such as Law Enforcement and Maintenance.

Fort Dupont Park has good community support. There is a new Friends group forming around the concert series, but they are interested in other programming as well. There is the potential for growth in a grassroots initiative that might result in increased volunteers and help with fundraising. Any changes to the building would need to be community driven, and this group may offer that kind of support.

Please see Figure 1: Bubble diagram, Fort Dupont Activity Center, for a conceptual view of the building repurposed. The diagram shows a repurposed Activity Center that emphasizes flexible uses. It retains

Recommendations

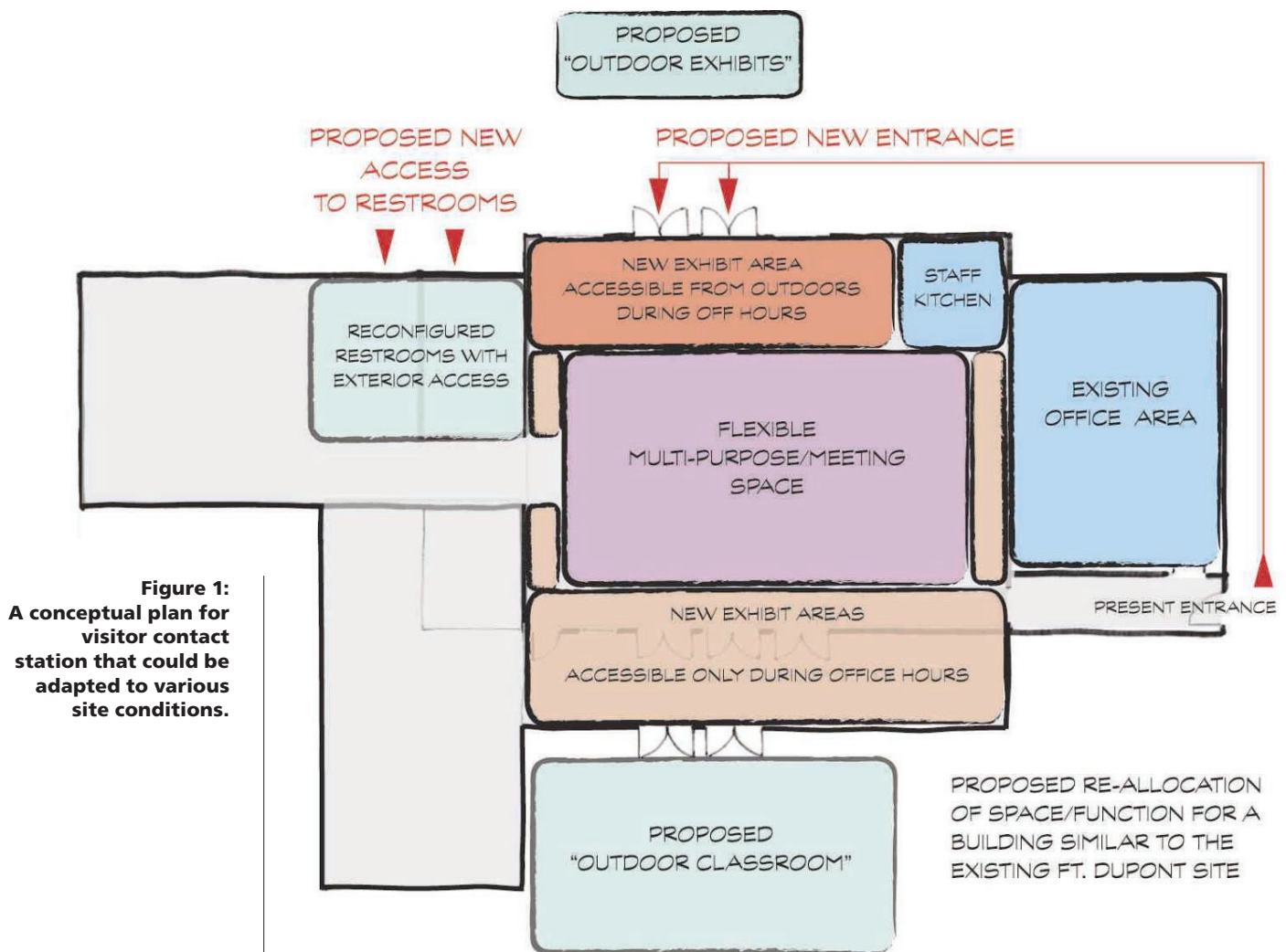


Figure 1:
A conceptual plan for
visitor contact
station that could be
adapted to various
site conditions.

use of the main room for meetings and classes, but includes wall exhibits around the perimeter (with the stage removed to increase square footage of floor and wall space). The floor of the main room would feature a large map of the entire fort system. The main entrance is through the doors facing the park, and the space just inside the doors is dedicated to exhibits that could be accessed without staff oversight for off-hours interpretation. An outdoor classroom is indicated on the opposite side of the building. The current restrooms are reconfigured, moving the women's room next to the

men's, and providing both interior and exterior access, so visitors could still use the bathrooms when the building is otherwise closed. Back office functions like staff work stations and storage are retained. Landscaping would take advantage of natural features, and would include a circular drive for bus drop-offs.

Please note that this is a hypothetical concept developed for a potential repurposed Fort Dupont as an exercise to determine basic needs. A visitor contact facility in a different venue, while it would share the characteristics indicated here, would

obviously require a different design concept tailored to that space.

Outdoor Classroom/Kiosk

There is a need for interpretive space at each of the forts that can convey important stories without the need for onsite staff. While a simple kiosk would serve this purpose well, creating a kiosk within an outdoor classroom would provide important additional opportunities for interpretation. Such a unit could be installed at any fort, although it would need to be scaled down for some of them. Nearby bathrooms and water would be required for the venue's use by school groups. The mobile interpretive unit (see below) would be a compatible component of the outdoor classroom concept in

that it could supply useful program props and materials.

Please see Figure 2: Concept drawing, Outdoor Classroom/Kiosk. The concept shows a sheltered space with an optional roof that references construction details of the forts such as wood and earth. Self-seating in a circular pattern gives the feeling of a natural amphitheater while representing D.C. geography and reflecting the various elevations of the forts. The floor of the unit includes a large, permanent walk-on in-ground map of the entire circle of forts. Interpretive media at each site tells the stories of the CWDW defensive network, but also includes site-specific information about the neighborhood, community, and natural environment.

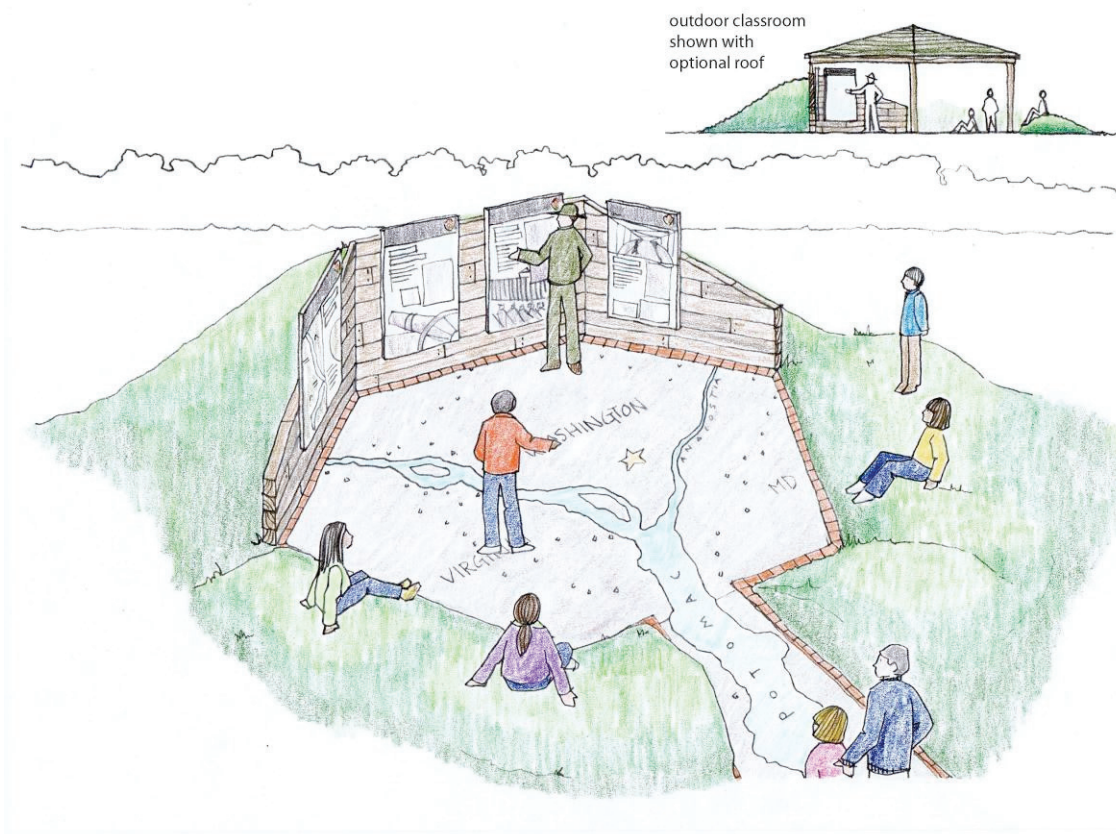


Figure 2:
Concept Drawing,
Hypothetical outdoor
Classroom/Kiosk



Figure 3, Artist's rendition of proposed CWDW van

Mobile Unit

A mobile unit would help reinforce the idea of the forts as a single defensive unit. It could present programs in rotation at each of the forts, bringing interpretation to even the most remote of the forts; it could visit schools; and it could provide a much-needed taste of D.C.'s remarkable Civil War history to other regional destinations, where tourists otherwise do not encounter much evidence of the war. In addition, the mobile unit would provide an excellent NPS/CWDW branding opportunity as it moves about the city, and would be a prime candidate for an individual sponsor. It could easily visit partner forts in Virginia and other D.C. Civil War sites to provide joint programming. A social media tie-in would allow people to track the location of the mobile unit and learn its upcoming program schedule in real time.

MOBILE UNIT AUDIENCES. Three potential audiences identified for interpretation via mobile unit include 1) destination tourists who are not at the forts, 2) audiences at the fort sites, and 3) visiting school groups.

Goals for destination tourists in D.C. but not present at a fort.

This audience may or may not have a particular interest in the Civil War. The mobile unit would serve to interpret D.C.'s Civil War history, which is less known than some other aspects of its past. It may encourage this audience to seek out and visit the CWDW sites.

Goals for audience at fort sites.

This audience includes school groups visiting a fort, destination visitors, attendees at special programs/events, and neighborhood visitors. The arrival of a graphically distinct mobile unit might help spark community interest, especially if neighborhood stories are incorporated into the interpretive program for each fort, and should encourage community participation in special fort events. For forts that are physically difficult to reach, the mobile unit can help provide alternative interpretation for those who need it.

Goals for school audience. While some school groups will come to the forts for curriculum-based learning, the mobile unit could reach schools that are unable to visit, enhancing educational outreach. The school class may or may not eventually visit an actual fort in person. Mobile unit programs should be affordable or free, and they should be developed with teacher input to assure that they are appropriate for classroom presentation. If presented outdoors, protection from sun and the elements will be needed.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOR A PROPOSED MOBILE INTERPRETIVE UNIT. Many interpreting organizations have created mobile units to enhance programming. These units range in size from 50+ foot semitrailers that hold recreated environments, to minivans and small fold-up trailers. *(Please see Appendix A, Examples of mobile units, for a survey of some such vehicles.)* No matter the scale of the eventual unit, certain principles should guide its design and preparation. These include:

- Unit should be easy to park and drive in a variety of situations.
- It should be “wrapped” in a bold graphic that strongly reinforces both the NPS and CWDW brand, when at a site, and when traveling throughout the city.
- The location of the mobile unit each day should be tweeted to the public.
- The mobile unit should be operable by one person, including changing or switching out any interpretive material.
- It should provide wind and rain protection, both when set up, and under way.
- The forts themselves are the resource, so for visits to the fort sites, the mobile unit should complement the forts, and not attempt to replace them.
- However, the mobile unit must facilitate interpretation of a variety of forts, including those with fewer extant features that require more support for their interpretation.
- To the extent possible, the mobile unit should reflect the time period

of the Civil War. For example, if tents are brought out and set up, they should resemble military tents of the period.

- Unit should be “green” with regard to power and construction materials.
- Custom graphics and other materials should be developed for each fort/neighborhood.

DESIRED FEATURES FOR THE MOBILE UNIT. Certain interpretive materials and features could be incorporated into the design of the unit. These include:

- Audiovisual elements that can be updated easily: power point, DVD, slides, TV, etc.
- 3-D topographical map that shows the fort network and D.C. geography.
- Large, roll-up floor map with “build your own map” elements.
- 3-D modular fort model (can take elements apart to show different features, like artillery ranges, construction details, etc.)
- CW-era reproduction tent that people can go into.

Figure 4,
Artist’s rendition,
trailer-based mobile
interpretive unit



- Hands-on materials (Civil War and nature).
- CW photography portrait gallery for visitors to take their own Civil War-era photographs.
- Graphics that can be customized to individual forts/venues/neighborhoods.
- Music/sound environment.
- Take-away piece for further information, website links, directions to other forts, etc.
- Storage space.
- Generator or other power source, such as solar.

Two options—a CWDW van, and a small trailer incorporating interpretive material—were considered by the group. Either or both of these would meet a variety of audience goals for the mobile unit. *Please see Figure 3 for an artist's rendition of the proposed CWDW van. Please see Figure 4 for a concept sketch for a trailer-based mobile interpretive unit.*

Interpretive Programs

Current programs are rich and varied, and include ranger talks, hikes, bike rides, concerts, and special events. They will continue to be evaluated, strengthened, and enhanced to ensure that they support the CWDW's four primary interpretive themes. The Contraband and Urban Planning themes will be particular targets for strengthening.

Research Needed

In order to strengthen CWDW programming, the planning team identified several areas in which further research is needed, including the Civil War, Contrabands, and urban design. Additional information is also needed about several of the forts. Please see Appendix D for more on CWDW research needs.

Strategic Partnerships

In an environment that features so many potential partners, the CWDW will focus on those partnerships that offer the greatest mutual benefits. Some partnerships are essential. These include (list is not meant to be comprehensive):

Entities that maintain and interpret other Civil War-era forts

- Arlington County
- City of Alexandria

Other entities in the D.C. area that interpret Civil War history

- Ford's Theatre Society
- National Trust for Historic Preservation, including Lincoln Cottage
- Smithsonian Institution
- Related Civil War historic sites, museums, and roundtables

D.C.-wide organizations/entities

- Cultural Tourism D.C. (special expertise in community-based planning)
- Existing NPS partners that have an MOA/MOU or programs at a CWDW site (such as the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club that has an

- MOU for activities at Fort Marcy)
- National Capital Planning Commission
- D.C. Council (focus on the forts as parks, especially for recreation)
- D.C. government
- Area educators

Strategic approach to partnering.

Recommendations for strategic partnering center on fostering grass-roots support from fort communities. They include:

Focus on local outreach at the community level.

- Develop an umbrella partnership to manage community relations that includes at least one representative from each site working together to support the forts.
- Build this partnership from existing influential local community organizations.
- Add the communities' stories to each fort's interpretive program, carrying the forts' stories into the present.

Co-sponsor historic-themed activities and exhibits with locally-based museums and civic institutions located adjacent to the CWDW sites.

- Contact locally-based museums and civic institutions to determine appropriate venues.
- Consider the "trails" concept. An "Early's Advance on Washington Trail" could include Monocacy, Fort Stevens, Grace Church, etc. A "Civil War Trails" for the District of Columbia could mirror those already established in other states.

- Develop activities or exhibits for shared events.

Focus first on the forts with less demonstrated community support.

- Hold "listening sessions" to hear what the community wants. Don't "present," just listen.
- Take simple responsive actions that indicate that community concerns have been heard. A sense of psychological ownership grows where communities feel real ownership of community assets.

Encourage creation of a support group for the CWDW.

- Consider expansion of the existing Alliance for the Preservation of the CWDW to take on this role.
- Consider an organization similar to the Alliance.
- The group should be a formal organization with representation from all fort communities.

Interpretive Infrastructure

Interpretive infrastructure refers to the support systems that must be in place for effective interpretation of the forts' stories. Types of infrastructure include:

- Training and professional development.
- Resource-based research materials.
- Visitor-based research materials.
- Access to images and sounds.
- Access to resource-based collections and archives (non-consumptive, including original objects, specimens, and fine reproductions).

- Interpretive objects (consumable items like props, equipment, replicas, costumes, etc.)
- Volunteers.

Training and professional development.

- Many free training options are available to CWDW interpreters on a voluntary basis. Recommendation: create an easily accessed summary of these options, with links. Encourage sites to share their park-related resources with each other.
- There is a need for a coordinated set of training materials. Recommendation: Create a set of materials centered specifically on the CWDW, to include:
 - ♦ A bibliography.
 - ♦ A pre-set basic tour for each of the forts, so that any ranger can substitute for another on short notice. Cross-train individual interpreters for this purpose.
 - ♦ Basic background information compiled for each fort.
 - ♦ Regularly update interpreters regarding new information added to SharePoint.
 - ♦ An annual (seasonal) orientation and training workshop for temporary, seasonal, and volunteer staff would provide structure for specific orientation to CWDW sites and resources. Recommendation: Develop training workshop and revise on annual basis to include up-to-date research and project information for interpreters. The workshop could take place in May, prior to

the arrival of seasonal staff.

- Create opportunities for interchange and information swap during regularly scheduled inter-team meetings.
- Arrange to meet regularly with Resource Management for updates.
- Work with Resource Management to develop a consolidated list of available information and resources.
- Create a single repository for printed materials about the forts that includes a research desk and library of CWDW materials all in one place.

Visitor-based research materials.

This refers to providing ways for CWDW interpreters to understand their audience better. There are huge challenges in identifying audience needs, not to mention simply counting their numbers in these parks, which are widely open to the public, and frequently unstaffed. Recommendations:

- Explore a better method for counting visitors.
- Enhance accurate reporting of program attendance.
- Weigh the pros and cons of installing visitor logs at unstaffed forts.
- Encourage social media tagging, where people can upload snapshots of their fort visits.
- Sponsor OMB-approved focus groups in local communities to learn more about community use of the forts/sites.
- Consider a simple online survey, if permitted by NPS protocol.
- Apply for a formal, OMB-approved visitor survey, possibly a Visitor

Survey Project survey conducted by the University of Idaho's Park Studies Unit.

Access to images and sounds.

This refers to photographs, digital images, and digital sound files for use in programs, exhibits, website, media development, etc. Recommendations:

- Create a central repository for these kinds of resources.
- Update the multimedia section of the CWDW website.
- Consider creating a photo album of historical and contemporary fort images on Facebook or on a similar type of site.
- Consider a Flickr (or similar photo aggregator) site where visitors as well as interpreters can upload images.

Resource-based collections and archives. The recommendations relate to access to collection objects and archival material:

- Create a consolidated list of CWDW theme-related materials, including available high resolution photographs.
- Facilitate public access to these materials via the CWDW website.

Interpretive objects. CWDW is just beginning to build this collection. Some tents, uniforms, and wooden rifles have been acquired. A model of Fort Marcy is under construction. Additional needs include:

- Rifles.
- Uniforms.
- Cannon balls, grapeshot, canister, etc.
- Correct carriage for cannon.

Volunteers. Volunteers can add invaluable public services for visitors. Developing and maintaining an effective volunteer program is labor intensive, but can pay off if adequate resources are committed to it. Recommendations:

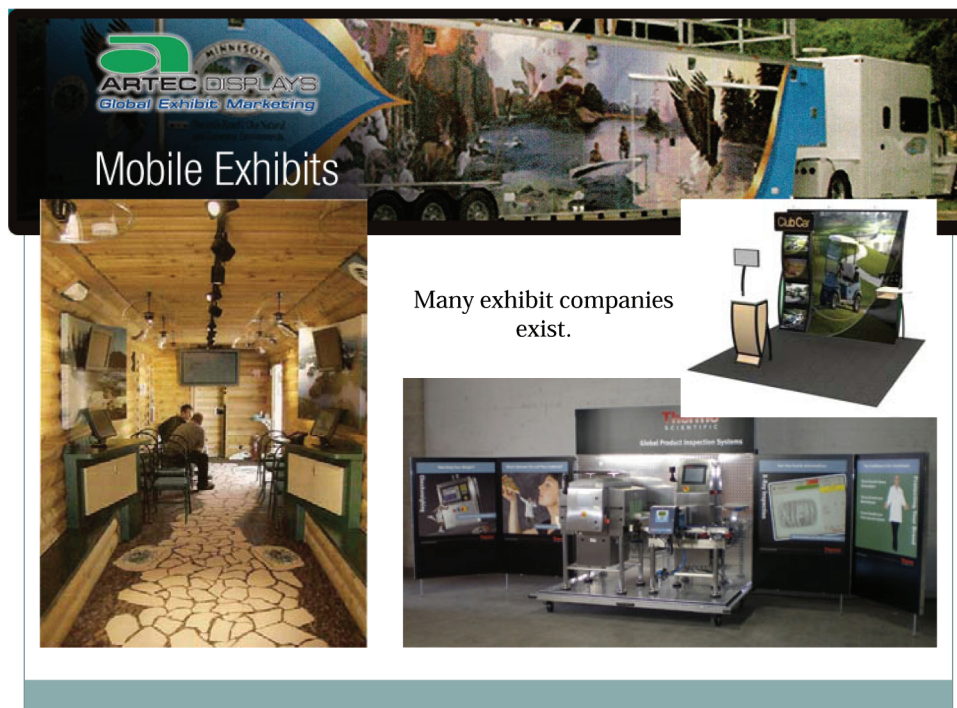
- Consider engaging a volunteer Volunteer Coordinator with specific skill sets to manage CWDW volunteer programs.
- Extend outreach to academic communities for volunteer student interns who might exchange their work for the CWDW for college credit (practicums) on undergraduate or graduate levels.

Conclusion

The Long-Range Interpretive Plan for the Civil War Defenses of Washington focuses on strategies that will help visitors connect conceptually and thematically the nineteen surviving features of the system of defenses that protected the nation's capital during the Civil War. It builds on existing strategies, suggesting web-based interpretation of the entire system, linking the viewsheds between some of the sites, and creating new opportunities for visitor contact. These potentially include a retrofitted Fort Dupont Activity Center, outdoor classrooms constructed at some of the sites, and a mobile unit that could not only travel to the different sites to present interpretive programs, but could reach schools and other tourist destinations in the District of Columbia area.

Appendix A Examples of Mobile Units

Survey of Mobile Exhibits



NPS: Corps of Discovery II



- ~massive, 4-year project tracing Lewis and Clark route in “real time”
- ~7 vehicles, including 53’ semi trailer, box trailer, and tents
- ~operational costs: \$1.5 million/year, excluding salaries and travel expenses
- ~“build-out” of semi trailer was \$600,000
- ~Contracted with logistics company

NPS/BLM: Pompey’s Pillar



- ~Enclosed cargo trailer pulled by pickup truck
- ~1 staff member operates the unit and presents programs
- ~Schedule is advertised and they try to “piggyback” programming with schools in one area
- ~if funding is insufficient one year, they keep it parked
- ~Now managed only by BLM

Civil War Road Show



~53-foot tractor trailer will visit every county in Pennsylvania for Civil War Sesquicentennial, 2011-2014

~Interactive exhibits, Civil War-era tent, programming, performances



American Museum of Natural History

~4 vans with 4 different programs for varying age groups

~In place since 1993 (started smaller and evolved)

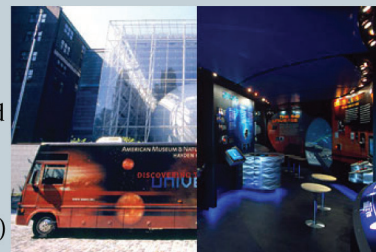
~2010: 22,144 visitors across 4 trucks (Peak capacity= 25k, 4 days/wk + events)

~Visits schools, libraries, community centers, day camps, churches

~Up to 120 students at a school, 15 students at a time. School must provide legal parking.

~Pre-visit materials and links to NY curriculum

~Teachers must attend professional development beforehand



AMNH Moveable Museums

*Anthropology (Grades 3-8)

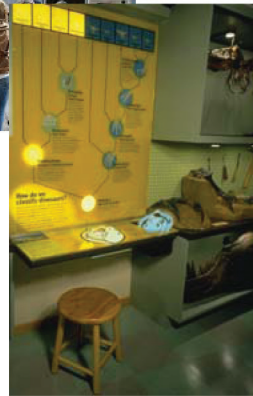
Students invited to “become an anthropologist and visit the homes of other cultures.”

*Paleontology (K-8)

Offers two programs in paleontology, depending on grade level.

*Astronomy (Grades 6-12)

Hands-on space laboratory.



~Each van has corporate sponsorship (e.g. Bloomberg) – includes logo, bragging rights, and attendance at corporate functions

~Staff: At peak, 1 coordinator and 8 educators. Currently have 5 staff. “Grueling hours,” 35-40k/year. Largest expense is staff.

~Expenses (fuel, books, handouts, minor repairs, maintenance, materials, supplies) = 50K/truck per year

Van of Enchantment (New Mexico)



~Brings artifacts and materials from state museums and monuments

~Changing exhibits, always free

~Partnership between DOT, Dept. of Cultural Affairs, New Mexico History Museum, Museums of NM Foundation

~Operational 10+ years (built stronger partnerships over time)



Van of Enchantment (New Mexico)

~Grant-supported, with fewer stops in "leaner years"

~Targets underserved/rural/remote populations

~Average 9 stops a month, ¼ at public events.

~2 FT staff, 4 PT staff work 100-200 hours a year; occasional volunteer support at bigger events (when van is open up to 12 hours a day)

~Schools in winter, libraries during summer:
 *Teachers are mailed materials in advance
 *45 minute program: split into 2 groups (visit van and outdoor activity), then switch.



Van of Enchantment

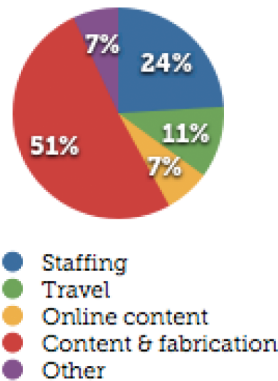


Budget breakdown

~FY2010: \$221K/year @ 20,655 visitors =
\$10.71 per visitor; ¾ were kids

~Half of cost is design/fabrication of new exhibit
each year

~Operating since 1996
Collaboration with DOT began with smaller,
successful project



~Living Classrooms Foundation, Baltimore
and Washington, DC

~450 sq. feet

~Plant and animal models

~Live animals

~interactive stations

~running water system and waterfall

~rainforest smells, sounds, and climate system

~forest canopy walkway



Susquehanna Art Museum



~VanGo!

~Exhibits and topics change each year



“Those Who Fell Through the Cracks”



~Documentary photos
from Hurricane
Katrina

~24-foot truck



Biofuels Mobile Learning Center



~Indiana Corn Marketing Council and
Indiana Soybean Alliance



Alternate Energy Classroom

~Mobile research facility powered by
solar and wind energy

~Students learn about green
technology and alternative energy



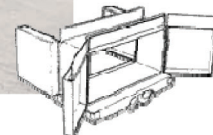
Go van Gogh (Dallas Museum of Art)

~Variety of art programs for 1-6 graders

~Topics include **African Masks, Arts of Mexico, Stories in Art, Art of the Lone Star State, Picturing American History, African & African American Art**



Mobile Exhibit



~\$75,000 incl. customization
-Pull by truck/van

- "shell" intended for customization
-Quick, 1-person set up

Mobile Exhibit (cont'd.)



APPENDIX B: Non-NPS Sites Open to the Public

Site	Operated By	Notes
Fort Ward	City of Alexandria	Reconstructed Civil War headquarters serves as visitor center and museum. On- and off-site programming for students, including teacher lesson plans. On-going lecture series on Civil War topics, tours, video series, bus tours, and living history activities.
Fort C. F. Smith	Arlington County Dept. of Parks and Recreation	Earthworks. Ruins include the bomb proof, the fort well, the North magazine, and 11 of the 22 gun emplacements. County completed Cultural Resource Management Plan in 1996.
Fort Ethan Allen	Arlington County Dept. of Parks and Recreation	Interpretive displays. Mostly recreational use—playground, playing fields, gazebo, and dog run.
Battery Bailey (Bethesda, MD)	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission	Restored earthworks, and interpretive signage. Stabilization project completed in 1995.
Fort Willard (near Bell Haven country club)	Fairfax County Park Authority Administration	Earthworks located in a park encircled by a road and houses. Acquired in 1978.
Fort Freedom Hill (Vienna, VA)	Fairfax County Park Authority Administration	Partially reconstructed advance fort. Acquired in 1969, restored in 1977.

APPENDIX C: Further research needed

Participants in the long-range interpretive planning workshops identified some areas for which research is needed in order to strengthen CWDW programming. These include:

Research on the forts

Some of the forts are better researched than others. Forts for which additional research is needed to support interpretation include:

- Ft. Bayard
- Ft. Slocum
- Ft. Bunker Hill
- Ft. Chaplin
- Ft. Davis
- Ft. Ricketts
- Battery Carroll
- Fort Greble
- Battleground Cemetery, including Lincoln's role in its dedication

Research on themes and stories

The following topics require additional research to support the interpretation of the CWDW. In addition, please see Appendix A, The Forts and Their Stories, for more research topics.

THEME 1, THE CIVIL WAR

- Where did CWDW munitions come from?
- Was the cavalry depot at Fort Greble the object of a Confederate raid?

THEME 2, THE CONTRABANDS

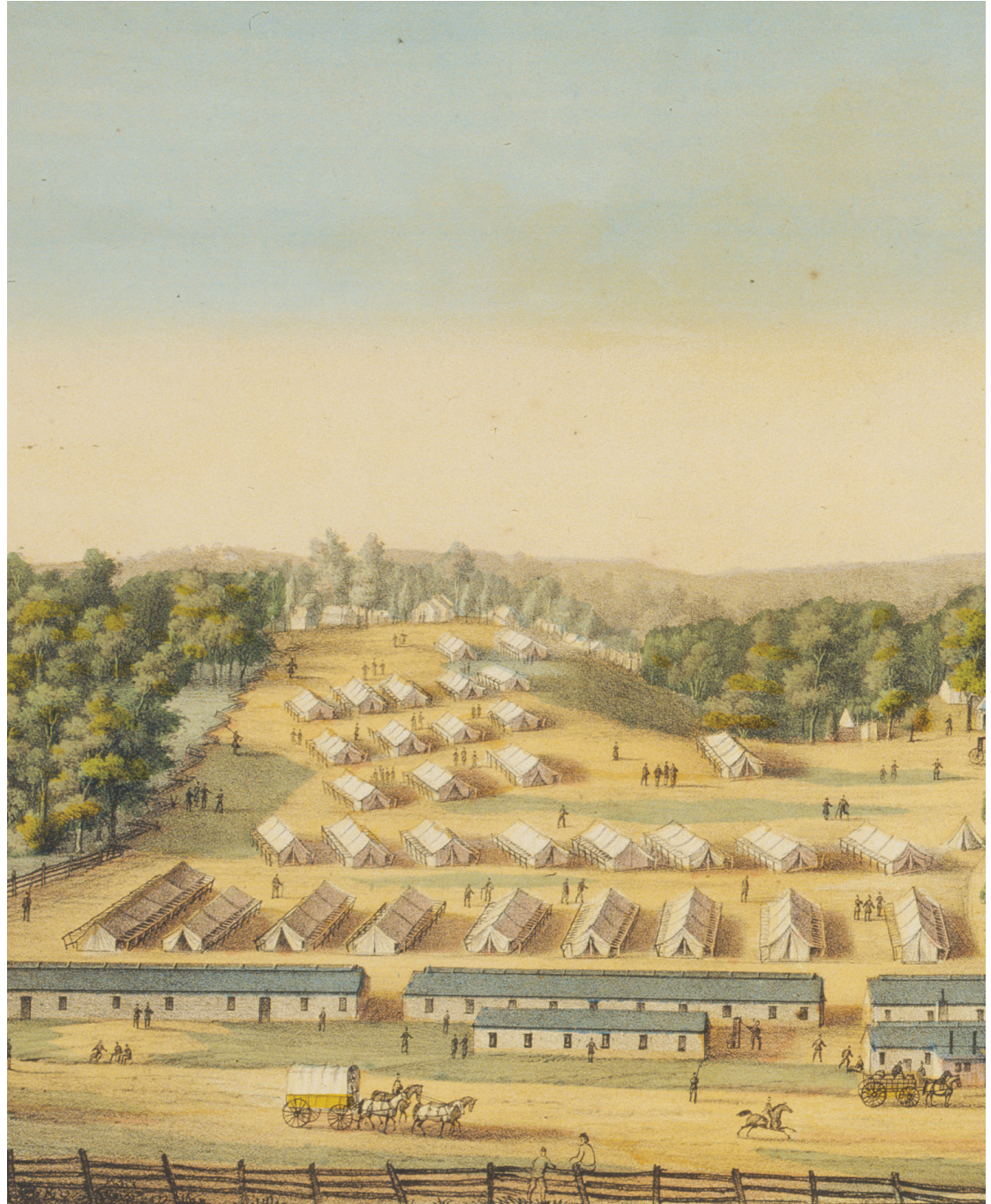
- The history of the Contrabands, especially those associated with the CWDW
 - ◆ Did Contraband presence in D.C. affect the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation?
 - ◆ Was a Contraband settlement located near Fort Reno?
 - ◆ Is the origin of the Brookline community, one of D.C.'s earliest integrated communities, connected to Fort Bunker Hill?
 - ◆ Is the origin of the Deanwood community, one of DC's oldest traditionally African American communities, linked to Fort Mahan?
 - ◆ Was Fort Stanton located next to a slave-holding farm?

THEME 3, NATURAL ENVIRONMENT None identified.

THEME 4, URBAN PLANNING

- What has been the impact of local communities on the forts, and how have the forts impacted local communities throughout time?
- Was Fort Foote once managed by D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation?

**Bird's-eye view, Union
Army's Cliffburne
Hospital, Washington,
D.C., c. 1862.**



Appendix D: The Planning Team

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Kevin Barry, *Park Ranger, Fort Dupont*
 Nick Bartolomeo, *Chief Ranger, Rock Creek Park*
 Brandon Bies, *Site Manager, Arlington House, the Robert E. Lee Memorial*
 Mary Brazell, *Park Ranger, Rock Creek Park*
 Kevin Bryant, *Park Ranger, NACE*
 Marilyn Cohen-Brown, *Park Ranger, NACE*
 Cindy Cox, *Deputy Superintendent, Rock Creek Park*
 Holly Fisher, *Park Ranger, NACE*
 Wesley Gant, *Park Ranger, Fort Dupont*
 Jon G. James, *Deputy Superintendent, GWMP*
 Julie Kuttruff, *Site Manager for NACE CWDW and Frederick Douglass NHS*
 Mark Maloy, *Park Ranger, Fort Dupont*
 Sonya McDonald, *Administrative Assistant, Frederick Douglas NHS*
 Simone Monteleone, *Cultural Resources Program Manager, Rock Creek Park*
 Giselle Mora-Bourgeois, *Biologist, Science Education Coordinator CUE*
 Tara Morrison, *Superintendent, Rock Creek Park*
 Braden Paynter, *Park Ranger, Frederick Douglas NHS*
 Ricardo Perez, *Supervisory Ranger, Rock Creek Park*
 Jesse Reynolds, *Supervisory Ranger, GWMP*
 Jermaine Robinson, *Park Ranger, NACE/Fort Dupont*
 Thomas Safranek, *Park Ranger, Fort Washington/Fort Foote*
 Peggy Scherbaum, *Park Ranger/Planner, Harpers Ferry
Center Project COR*
 Victoria Stauffenberg, *Park Ranger, GWMP*
 Ahmad Toure, *Communications Assistant, NACE, RTCA*
 Alexa Viets, *CWDW Program Manager*
 Barbara Wadding, *Park Ranger, Fort Washington, NACE*
 Perry Wheelock, *Associate Regional Director,
National Capital Region*
 Tonia Woods Horton, *Acting Program Manager, CWDW*

STAKEHOLDERS

Tersh Boasberg, *Alliance to Preserve CWDW*
 Mara Cherkasy, *Cultural Tourism DC*
 Dennis Chestnut, *Groundwork DC*
 David Farner, *City of Arlington, VA*
 Julia Koster, *National Capital Planning Commission*
 Tracey McIntire, *Civil War Preservation Trust*
 Langston McKee, *Groundwork DC/George
Washington University*
 Vaughn Perry, *Groundwork DC*
 Mary Pat Rowen, *Maryland Native Plant Society
and DC Committee of 100*
 Drake Wilson, *Friends of Fort Dupont*

INTERPRETIVE SOLUTIONS, INC.

Ann Clausen, *Principal*
 Peter Dajevskis, *Principal*
 Vid Mednis, *Media Specialist*
 Erika Dajevskis, *Project Manager*

HYDESIGN

Gene Yuzawa
 JoAnne Yuzawa

